

What is a class?

a factory of objects

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A Class is Mould of Objects

- A class is an object mould
 - A class creates many instances
- Each instance is still a separate entity
 - You can create mutiple baths and break one.





A Class is Factory of Objects

A class

- Defines all the variables of all its instances
- Defines all the behavior
 - no repetition in all the instances





A Class Factorises Object Properties

- State: All rectangles have an origin and an extent (containing different values)
- Behavior: Computing the top of a rectangle can be
 - defined once in the class
 - applied to all rectangles

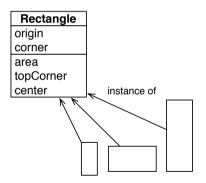
Rectangle >> top "Answer the position of the receiver's top horizontal line." ^ origin y



A Class is a Factory of Objects

A class describes the structure and the behavior of its instances

- Each instance has its own value
- All instances of class share the same behavior





An Instance has Specific Properties

- A class defines the structure and behavior of all its instances
- Instances have specific values for the properties defined by their class

(Rectangle origin: 10@10 corner: 50@110) extent >>> 40@100 (Rectangle origin: 10@10 corner: 50@60) extent >>> 40@50



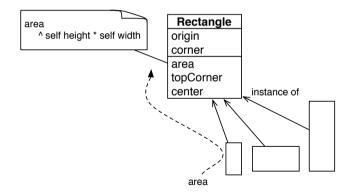
Class vs. Instances

- An object is instance of a class
- An object has been created by a class
- All instances of a class react similarly to a message
- All instances of a class execute the same method in response to a message



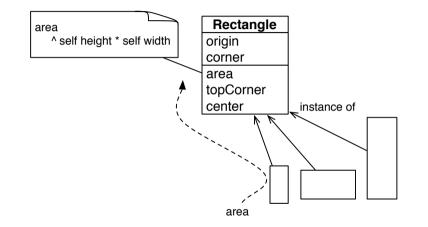
Instances Share the Same Behavior

- All the instances of a class share the same behavior
- A class defines the methods that are executed when an instance receives a message



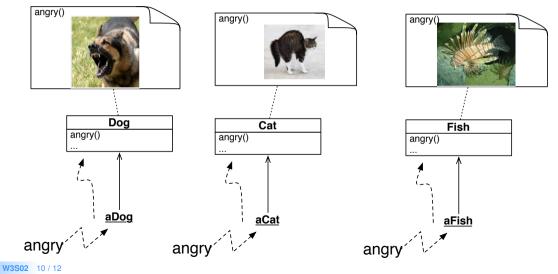


Methods are Looked up in the Class of the Receiver





Methods are looked up dynamically in the class of the receiver



What you should know

- Any object is instance of a class.
- A class is a factory: it creates instances.
- All the instances of class execute the same method in response to the same message.
- A class creates instances that share their behavior.
- A class defines methods that are executed on its instances.



A course by Stéphane Ducasse http://stephane.ducasse.free.fr

Reusing some parts of the Pharo Mooc by

Damien Cassou, Stéphane Ducasse, Luc Fabresse http://mooc.pharo.org



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