

Objects & Encapsulation

- Software Development Approaches
- Objects as Action Blocks
- Classes as Templates
- Encapsulation

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Software Development Approach

We need to write software having:

- CORE QUALITIES
 - **Correct** → Accurately meets the specifications of behaviour and required outputs
 - **Safe** → Maintains the integrity of systems and users
 - **Efficient** → Acceptable response times to requested actions
 - **Reliable** → Behaves as expected under routine and exceptional situations
 - **Maintainable** → Efficiently supports the insertion of new features, improvements, corrections

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Software Development Approach

- DESIRED QUALITIES
 - **Extensible** → Easily supports modifications to handle scaled up problems within a limited scope
 - **Portable** → Capable to operate on different hardware and software with minimal modifications
 - **Testable** → Easy to modularize and segregate components for testing and integration
 - **Verifiable** → Easy to trace code back to desired functionality and confirm validity
 - **Understandable** → Self documenting

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Software Development Approaches

- TWO MAIN APPROACHES
 - **Functional Decomposition** → Software performs a main function that can be decomposed into multiple functions, which in turn can be decomposed into functions
 - **Object-Oriented Development** → Software is implemented by a set of cooperating objects that exchange functionality request messages through standardized interfaces

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Objects

- AN OBJECT IS AN OPERATIONAL ENTITY IN AN EXECUTING COMPUTER PROGRAM
 - **State** → A collection of attributes holding current and relevant information about the object
 - **Behaviour** → A collection of operations (methods) that the object supports.
 - **Identity** → One or more attributes that uniquely identify an object as a distinct entity

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Objects

- OBJECTS REPRESENT PROGRAM ABSTRACTIONS OF REAL (PHYSICAL) AND ABSTRACT ENTITIES
 - **Problem Domain**
 - Collections of similar entities (i.e. databases)
 - Aggregations of specialized components (i.e. teams)
 - Hierarchies of specialization (i.e. Java libraries)
 - Physical systems (i.e. embedded systems)
 - **Software Environment**
 - Managed software environments (.NET, Java)
 - Styled application environments (Web, GUI)
 - Specific development environments (Production lines)

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Classes		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A CLASS IS A TEMPLATE FOR A COLLECTION OF OBJECTS WITH SIMILAR ENCAPSULATION AND BEHAVIOUR – Encapsulation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definitions: identification, basic properties • State • Specific data structure – Behaviour <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constructors • Utility behaviours (static methods implementing algorithm) • State or Encapsulated data change behaviours. 		
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Classes		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CLASS SPECIALIZATIONS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Tangible things → Physical artifacts, animals, etc. – Agents → Conversion devices, decoders, sorters, etc. – Events → GUI events, sensory events – Transactions → Database updates, ticket reservation, etc. – Users and Roles → Security, Access control – Systems → Email, video-conference, etc. – Interfaces → To peripherals (printers, files, displays) – Foundational → Object, Strings, Math 		
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Encapsulation		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PROCESS OF DEFINING A CLASS WITH AT LEAST ONE CUSTOMIZABLE ATTRIBUTE. – Abstraction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hide the details of the data and methods • Standard interface to attributes • Accessor and mutator methods • Specified interface to access methods – Encapsulation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reusability of code • Integrity and privacy of encapsulated data • Modularity for design, testing and expansion 		
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