# MASSACHVSETTS INSTITVTE OF TECHNOLOGY Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science 6.001 & Structure and Interpretation of Computer Programs Spring Semester, 2005

# **Project 4 - The Object-Oriented Adventure Game**

- Issued: Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup>
- Warm-up Exercises: You may be asked to show this work in tutorial on April 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup>
- Design Plan: Your plan for the design exercise should be emailed to your TA by Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> before 6:00 pm, at the latest (we encourage you to do this earlier!)
- Project Due: Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup> before 6:00 pm
- Code to load for this project:
  - Links to the system code files objsys.scm, objtypes.scm, and setup.scm are provided from the Projects link on the projects section.

You should begin working on the assignment once you receive it. It is to your advantage to get work done early, rather than waiting until the night before it is due. You should also read over and think through each part of the assignment (as well as any project code) before you sit down at the computer. It is generally much more efficient to test, debug, and run a program that you have thought about beforehand, rather than doing the planning "online." Diving into program development without a clear idea of what you plan to do generally causes assignments to take much longer than necessary.

Word to the wise: This project is difficult. The trick lies in knowing which code to write, and for that you must understand the project code, which is considerable. You'll need to understand the general ideas of object-oriented programming and the implementation provided of an object-oriented programming system (in objsys.scm). Then you'll need to understand the particular classes (in objtypes.scm) and the world (in setup.scm) that we've constructed for you. In truth, this assignment in much more an exercise in reading and understanding a software system than in writing programs, because reading significant amounts of code is an important skill that you must master. The warmup exercises will require you to do considerable digesting of code before you can start on them. And we strongly urge you to study the code before you try the programming exercises themselves. Starting to program without understanding the code is a good way to get lost, and will virtually guarantee that you will spend more time on this assignment than necessary.

In this project we will develop a powerful strategy for building simulations of possible worlds. The strategy will enable us to make modular simulations with enough flexibility to allow us to expand and elaborate the simulation as our conception of the world expands and becomes more detailed. One way to organize our thoughts about a possible world is to divide it up into discrete objects, where each object will have a behavior by itself, and it will interact with other objects in some lawful way. If it is useful to decompose a problem in this way then we can construct a computational world, analogous to the "real" world, with a computational object for each real object.

Each of our computational objects has some independent local state, and some rules (or code), that determine its behavior. One computational object may influence another by sending it messages and invoking methods in the other. The program associated with an object describes how the object reacts to messages and how its state changes as a consequence.

You may have heard of this idea in the guise of "Object-Oriented Programming systems"(OOPs!). Languages such as C++ and Java are organized around OOP. While OOP has received a lot of attention in recent years, it is only one of several powerful programming styles. What we will try to understand here is the essence of the idea, rather than the incidental details of their expression in particular languages.

# An Object System

Consider the problem of simulating the activity of a few interacting agents wandering around different places in a simple world. Real people are very complicated; we do not know enough to simulate their behavior in any detail. But for some purposes (for example, to make an adventure game) we may simplify and abstract this behavior. In particular, we can use objects to capture common state parameters and behaviors of things, and can then use the message-passing paradigm to control interaction between objects in a simulation.

Let's start with the fundamental stuff first. We can think of our object oriented paradigm as consisting of classes and instances. A class can be thought of as the "template" for how we want a particular kind of object to behave. The way we define the class of an object is with a basic "make handler" procedure; this procedure is used with a "create instance" procedure which builds for us a particular instance. As you will see, when we examine the code, each class is defined by a procedure that when invoked will create some internal state (including instances of other class objects) and a message passing procedure (created by a "make handler") that returns methods in response to messages.

Our object instances are thus procedures which accept messages. An object will give you a method if you send it a message; you can then invoke that method (possibly with some arguments) to cause some action, state update, or other computation to occur.

The main pieces we will use in our code to capture these ideas are detailed as follows:

**Instance of an object** – each individual object has its own identity. The instance knows its type, and has a message handler associated with it. One can "ask" an object to do something, which will cause the object to use the message handler to

look for a method to handle the request and then invoke the method on the arguments.

- **"Making" an object message handler** each instance needs a new message handler to inherit the state information and methods of the specified class. The message handler is not a full "object instance" in our system; the message handler needs to be part of an instance object (or part of another message handler that is part of an instance object). All procedures that define classes should take a self pointer (a pointer to the enclosing instance) as the first argument.
- "Creating" an object the act of creation does three things: it makes a new instance of the object; it makes and sets the message handler for that instance; and finally it INSTALL's that new object into the world.
- **"Installing" an object** this is a method in the object, by which the object can initialize itself and insert itself into the world, by connecting itself up with other related objects in the world.

Let's look at these different elements in a bit more detail.

### **Classes and Instances**

Here is the template for a class definition in our object system. This is quite similar to the one introduced in lecture, but we have cleaned up the interface a little bit to make things easier to read:

```
(define (type self arg1 arg2 ... argn )
  (let ((super1-part (super1 self args)
        (super2-part (super2 self args)
        other superclasses
        other local state )
  (make-handler
        type
        (make-methods
            message-name-1 method-1
            message-name-2 method-2
            other messages and methods
        )
        super1-part super2-part ...)))
```

That form is a little mystifying (we have put some terms in *italics* to indicate that these would be replaced by specific instances), so let's look at an example. In our simulation, almost everything is going to have a name, thus let's create a named-object class:

```
(define (named-object self name)
  (let ((root-part (root-object self))))
```

```
(make-handler
  'named-object ; name of the class
  (make-methods
    'NAME (lambda () name)
    'INSTALL (lambda () 'INSTALLED)
    'DESTROY (lambda () 'DESTROYED))
  root-part))))
```

So we can see that this class procedure defines a template for a class. It includes some state variables (both parameters required as part of the procedure application, as well as any internal state variables we want to create); and it creates a message handler for controlling instances of the objects. That is performed by invoking make-handler, which takes as input the type of the object, a set of message-method pairs, and any inherited superclasses. Note that the message-method pairs are a combination of a symbol and a procedure that will do something. Each such class procedure will be used to create instances (see below).

We have designed some conventions, which will be useful in following the code. We use the type of the object as the name of the procedure that defines a class (e.g. namedobject in the above example). Note that this is also the first argument passed to the make-handler procedure.

The actual code for creating the handler is given by:

```
(define (make-handler typename methods . super-parts)
  (cond ((not (symbol? typename)))
         ;check for possible programmer errors
         (error "bad typename" typename))
        ((not (method-list? methods))
         (error "bad method list" methods))
        ((and super-parts (not (filter handler? super-parts)))
         (error "bad part list" super-parts))
        (else
         (named-lambda (handler message)
           (case message
             ((TYPE)
              (lambda () (type-extend typename super-parts)))
             ((METHODS)
              (lambda ()
                 (append (method-names methods)
                     (append-map (lambda (x) (ask x 'METHODS))
                                  super-parts))))
             (else
              (let ((entry (method-lookup message methods)))
                 (if entry
                    (cadr entry)
                    (find-method-from-handler-list
                          message
                          super-parts)))))))))
```

If you look through this code (you don't need to understand all of it!) you can see that this procedure first checks for some error cases, and then in the general case creates a procedure that takes as argument a message and then checks that symbol against a set of cases (you may want to look up named-lambda in the Scheme manual to see what it does). If it is the special case of TYPE, then it returns a list of the types of objects inherited by this class. If it is the special case of METHODS, it returns a list of method names of this class, followed by the method names inherited from associated superclasses. Otherwise it tries to look up the message in set of method for this particular class type, it then tries to look up the message in the set inherited from the superclasses.

Note that make-methods will build a list of (name, procedure) pairs suitable as input to make-handler.

```
(define (make-methods . args)
  (define (helper lst result)
    (cond ((null? lst) result)
          ; error catching
          ((null? (cdr lst))
           (error "unmatched method (name,proc) pair"))
          ((not (symbol? (car lst)))
           (if (procedure? (car lst))
               (pp (car lst)))
           (error "invalid method name" (car lst)))
          ((not (procedure? (cadr lst)))
           (error "invalid method procedure" (cadr lst)))
          (else
           (helper (cddr lst)
                   (cons (list (car lst) (cadr lst)) result)))))
  (cons 'methods (reverse (helper args '()))))
```

This set of code is a slightly modified version of what was presented in lecture, but with the same overall behavior. Every *foo* procedure defining a class of type *foo* takes self as the first argument. This indicates of which instance the class handler is a part.

Returning to our definition of named-object we see that the second argument to named-object is name, which is part of the state of the named-object.

The let statement which binds root-part to the result of making a root-object, together with the type-extend usage inside the type method of make-handler, and the use of the super-parts at the end of the definition, all together tell us that named-objects are a *subclass* of root-object.

```
(define (root-object self)
  (make-handler
```

```
'root
(make-methods
'IS-A
(lambda (type)
    (memq type (ask self 'TYPE))))))
```

The root object provides a basis for providing common behaviors to all classes. Specifically, it provides a convenient method (IS-A) to see if a type descriptor is in the TYPE list. We will by convention use this class as the root for all other classes.

Named-objects have no other local state than the name variable. They do have four methods: TYPE, NAME, INSTALL, and DESTROY. The TYPE method comes from the make-handler procedure and it indicates that named-objects have the type named-object in addition to any type descriptors that the root-part has. The INSTALL method is not required, but if it exists, it is called when an instance is created. In the case of named-object, there is nothing to do at creation time, but we'll later see examples where this method is non-trivial. The NAME is a *selector* in that it returns the name with which the object was created.

However, the named-object procedure only builds a *handler* for an object of type named-object. In order to get an *instance*, we need a create-named-object procedure:

```
(define (create-named-object name) ; symbol -> named-object
  (create-instance named-object name))
```

Here, an instance is created using the named-object procedure. The create-instance procedure builds a handler procedure that serves as a container for the real handler for the instance. It also attaches a tag or label to the handler, so that we know we are working with an instance. We need this extra complexity because each *foo* procedure expects self as an argument, so we build an instance object, then create the handler, passing the instance object in for self. You'll explore more of this system in the questions below.

### **Using Instances**

Once you have an instance, you can call the *methods* on it using the ask procedure:

(define book (create-named-object 'sicp)) (ask book 'NAME) ;Value: sicp (ask book 'TYPE) ;Value: (named-object root) The ask procedure retrieves the method of the given name from the instance, and then calls it. Retrieving a method from a handler is done with get-method, which ends up calling the handler procedure with the method name as the message. The specifics of the ask procedure and related procedures can be found in objsys.scm.

### **Inheritance and Subclasses**

We've already built a class, named-object, that *inherited* from its parent class, rootobject. If the handler for a named-object is sent a message that it doesn't recognize, it attempts to get a method from its parent (last line of make-handler procedure). Each handler creates a private handler for its parent to pass these messages to (the let statement in named-object). Because this parent handler is part of the same instance as the overall handler, the self value is the same in both.

However, let's move on to a subclass of named-object called a thing. A thing is an object that will have a location in addition to a name. Thus, we may think of a thing as a kind of named object except that it also handles the messages that are special to things. This arrangement is described in various ways in object-oriented jargon, e.g., "the thing class *inherits* from the named-object class," or "thing is a *subclass* of named-object," or "named-object is a *superclass* of thing."

```
(define (create-thing name location) ; symbol, location -> thing
  (create-instance thing name location))
(define (thing self name location)
  (let ((named-part (named-object self name)))
    (make-handler
     'thing
     (make-methods
      'INSTALL (lambda ()
                  (ask named-part 'INSTALL)
                  (ask (ask self 'LOCATION) 'ADD-THING self))
      'LOCATION (lambda () location)
      'DESTROY (lambda ()
                  (ask (ask self 'LOCATION) 'DEL-THING self))
      'EMIT
                (lambda (text)
                  (ask screen 'TELL-ROOM (ask self 'LOCATION)
                       (append
                         (list "At"
                               (ask (ask self 'LOCATION) 'NAME))
                         text))))
    named-part)))
```

A very interesting (and confusing!) property of object-oriented systems is that subclasses can *specialize* or *override* methods of their superclasses. In lecture, you saw this with professors SAVING things differently than students. A subclass *overrides* a method on the *superclass* by supplying a method of the same name. For example, thing *overrides* the INSTALL method of named-object. When the user of the object tries to get the method named INSTALL, it will be found in thing and thing's version of the method will be returned (because it never reaches the else clause in make-handler which checks the parent named-object-part). The thing class *overrides* two methods on named-object explicitly (as well as two implicitly); can you point out which two explicit methods are overridden?

One of the methods which thing overrides in an implicit manner is the TYPE method. This is one of the methods that every class is supposed to override, as it allows the class to include its *type descriptor* in the list of types that the object has. This allows the class of an instance to be discovered at run time:

```
(define building (create-thing 'stata-center MIT))
(ask building 'TYPE)
;Value: (thing named-object root)
```

There is a handy method on the root-object called IS-A that uses the TYPE method to determine if an object has a certain type:

```
(ask building 'IS-A 'thing)
;Value: #t
(ask building 'IS-A 'named-object)
;Value: #t
(ask book 'IS-A 'thing)
;Value: #f
(ask book 'IS-A 'named-object)
;Value: #t
```

You'll note that building is considered to be both a thing and a named-object, because even though it was built as a thing, things inherit from named-object.

### Using superclass methods

In the thing code, the DESTROY method uses (ask self 'LOCATION) in order to figure out where to remove itself from. However, it could have just referenced the location variable. It doesn't because one of the tenets of object-oriented programming is "if there's a method that does what you need, use it." The idea is to re-use code as much as is reasonable. (It turns out just using location would be a bug in this case; you'll be able to see why after doing the warm-up exercises!)

Some of the time, when you specialize a method, you want the subclass' method to do something completely different than the superclass. For example, the way massive-stars DIE (supernova!) is very different than the way stars DIE (burn out). However, the rest of

the time, you may want to specify some *additional* behavior to the original. This presents a problem: how to call your superclass' method from within the overriding method. Following the usual pattern of (ask self 'METHOD) will give rise to an infinite loop! Thus, instead of asking ourself, we ask our superclass-part. Note that we do this with the INSTALL method of a thing, where we explicitly ask the superpart to also install, as well as doing some specific actions. *This is the only situation in which you should be asking your superclass-part!* 

## **Classes for a Simulated World**

When you read the code in objtypes.scm, you will see definitions of several different classes of objects that define a host of interesting behaviors and capabilities using the OOP style discussed in the previous section. Here we give a brief "tour" of some of the important classes in our simulated world.

## **Container Class**

Once we have things, it is easy to imagine that we might want containers for things. We can define a utility container class as shown below:

```
(define (container self)
  (let ((root-part (root-object self))
        (things '()))
    (make-handler
     'container
     (make-methods
               (lambda () things)
      'THINGS
      'HAVE-THING? (lambda (thing)
                       (not (null? (memq thing things))))
      'ADD-THING (lambda (thing)
                       (if (not (ask self 'HAVE-THING? thing))
                           (set! things (cons thing things)))
                       'DONE)
                   (lambda (thing)
      'DEL-THING
                        (set! things (delq thing things))
                        'DONE))
    root-part)))
```

Note that a container does not inherit from named-object, so it does not support messages such as NAME or INSTALL. Containers are not meant to be stand-alone objects (there's no create-container procedure); rather, they are only meant to be used internally by other objects to gain the capability of adding things, deleting things, and checking if one has something.

### **Place class**

Our simulated world needs places (e.g. rooms or spaces) where interesting things will occur. The definition of the place class is shown below.

```
(define (create-place name)
                                 ; symbol -> place
  (create-instance place name))
(define (place self name)
  (let ((named-part (named-object self name)))
        (container-part (container self))
        (exits '()))
    (make-handler
     'place
     (make-methods
      'EXITS (lambda () exits)
      'EXIT-TOWARDS
      (lambda (direction)
         (find-exit-in-direction exits direction))
      'ADD-EXIT
      (lambda (exit)
         (let ((direction (ask exit 'DIRECTION)))
           (if (ask self 'EXIT-TOWARDS direction)
               (error (list name "already has exit" direction))
               (set! exits (cons exit exits)))
           'DONE)))
    container-part named-part)))
```

If we look at the first and last lines of place, we notice that place inherits from two different classes: it has both an internal named-part and an internal container-part. If the place receives a message that doesn't match any of its methods, the get-method procedure will first check the container-part for the method, then use the named-part. This is generally called "multiple inheritance," which comes with a host of issues as discussed briefly in lecture. You'll note that named-object and container only share one method of the same name, TYPE, and place overrides it. The TYPE method calls the type-extend procedure with *both* parent-parts. Retrieving the type of a place:

```
(define stata (create-place 'stata-center))
(ask stata 'TYPE)
;Value: (place named-object root container)
```

You aren't guaranteed anything about the order of the type-descriptors except that the first descriptor in the list is the class that you instantiated to create the instance. You can also see that our place instances will each have their own internal variable exits, which will be a list of exit instances which lead from one place to another place. In our object-oriented terminology, we can say the place class establishes a "has-a" relationship with the exit class (as opposed to the "is-a" relationship denoting inheritance). You should examine the objtypes.scm file to understand the definition for exits.

### **Mobile-thing class**

Now that we have things that can be contained in some place, we might also want mobile-things that can CHANGE-LOCATION.

```
(define (create-mobile-thing name location)
  ; symbol, location -> mobile-thing
  (create-instance mobile-thing name location))
(define (mobile-thing self name location)
  (let ((thing-part (thing self name location)))
    (make-handler
     'mobile-thing
     (make-methods
      'LOCATION (lambda () location)
                 ; This shadows message to thing-part!
      'CHANGE-LOCATION
      (lambda (new-location)
           (ask location 'DEL-THING self)
           (ask new-location 'ADD-THING self)
           (set! location new-location))
                     (lambda () #t)
      'ENTER-ROOM
      'LEAVE-ROOM
                     (lambda () #t)
      'CREATION-SITE (lambda () (ask thing-part 'location)))
     thing-part)))
```

When a mobile thing moves from one location to another it has to tell the old location to DEL-THING from its memory, and tell the new location to ADD-THING. You'll note that the CHANGE-LOCATION method adds and removes the self from locations, thus the location contains a reference to the *instance* not the *handler*!

#### Person class

A person is a kind of mobile thing that is also a container. The objective of the multiple inheritance is that people can "contain things" which they carry around with them when they move.

A person can SAY a list of phrases. A person can TAKE and DROP things. People also have a health meter which is reduced by SUFFERING. If a person's health reaches zero, they DIE. Some of the other messages a person can handle are briefly shown below; you should consult the full definition of the person class in objtypes.scm to understand the full set of capabilities a person instance has.

```
(define (create-person name birthplace) ; symbol, place -> person
 (create-instance person name birthplace))
(define (person self name birthplace)
  (let ((mobile-thing-part (mobile-thing self name birthplace))
        (container-part (container self))
        (health 3)
        (strength 1))
```

```
(make-handler
 'person
 (make-methods
  'STRENGTH (lambda () strength)
 'HEALTH (lambda () health)
 'SAY
 (lambda (list-of-stuff)
      (ask screen 'TELL-ROOM (ask self 'location)
           (append (list "At" (ask (ask self 'LOCATION) 'NAME)
                              (ask self 'NAME) "says --")
                   list-of-stuff))
       'SAID-AND-HEARD)
 'HAVE-FIT
 (lambda ()
       (ask self 'SAY '("Yaaaah! I am upset!"))
       'I-feel-better-now)
 ••••
 'TAKE
 (lambda (thing)
    •••
     )
 'LOSE
 (lambda (thing lose-to)
   (ask self 'SAY (list "I lose" (ask thing 'NAME)))
   (ask self 'HAVE-FIT)
   (ask thing 'CHANGE-LOCATION lose-to))
 'DROP
 (lambda (thing)
    (ask self 'SAY (list "I drop" (ask thing 'NAME)
                        "at" (ask (ask self 'LOCATION) 'NAME)))
    (ask thing 'CHANGE-LOCATION (ask self 'LOCATION)))
 •••
 )
mobile-thing-part container-part)))
```

### Avatar class

One kind of character you will use in this project is an avatar. The avatar is a kind of person who must be able to do the sorts of things a person can do, such as TAKE things or GO in some direction. However, the avatar must be able to intercept the GO message, to do things that are special to the avatar, as well as do what a person does when it receives a GO message. This is again accomplished by asking the superclass-part.

```
(define (create-avatar name birthplace)
 ; symbol, place -> avatar
  (create-instance avatar name birthplace))
(define (avatar self name birthplace)
  (let ((person-part (person self name birthplace)))
```

```
(make-handler
 'avatar
(make-methods
  'LOOK-AROUND
                        ; report on world around you
   (lambda ()
        ...)
  'GO
  (lambda (direction) ; Shadows person's GO
       (let ((success? (ask person-part 'GO direction)))
         (if success? (ask clock 'TICK))
         success?))
  'DIE
  (lambda (perp)
       (ask self 'SAY (list "I am slain!"))
       (ask person-part 'DIE perp)))
person-part)))
```

The avatar also implements an additional message, LOOK-AROUND, which you will find very useful when running simulations to get a picture of what the world looks like around the avatar.

### **Clocks and Callbacks**

In order to provide for the passage of time in our system, we have a global clock object, whose implementation may be found in <code>objsys.scm</code>. This class has exactly one instance which is created when <code>objsys.scm</code> is loaded and bound to the globally accessible variable <code>clock</code>. Unlike the real world, time passes only when we want it to, by asking the clock to <code>TICK</code>. The rest of the system finds out that time has passed because the clock informs them by sending them a message. However, not every object cares about time, so the clock only informs objects that have indicated to the clock that they care.

In order to hear about the passage of time, an object registers a *callback* with the clock. A *callback* is a promise to send a particular message to a particular object when the callback is activated. As with everything else in our system, a callback is an instance, in this case of the class clock-callback. Clock-callbacks are created with a name, an object, and a message. When a clock-callback is ACTIVATEd, it sends the object the message (e.g. it does (ask object message)).

To register a callback with the clock, use ADD-CALLBACK to add your callback to the clock's list of callbacks. When the clock TICKS, it ACTIVATES every callback on its list. An example of the process, which registers a callback named do-thingy to invoke the THINGY method on the current object:

```
(ask clock 'ADD-CALLBACK
      (create-clock-callback 'do-thingy self 'THINGY))
```

Remember to remove callbacks (with REMOVE-CALLBACK) when the object should no longer be responding to time.

### Autonomous-person class

Our world would be a rather lifeless place unless we had objects that could somehow "act" on their own. We achieve this by further specializing the person class. An autonomous-person is a person who can move or take actions at regular intervals, as governed by the clock through a callback. As described above, the instance indicates that it wants to know when the clock ticks by registering a callback with the clock. It does this upon creation by placing the code to add the callback in the INSTALL method. Once again, the INSTALL method wants to specify additional behavior, so it calls the superclass' method by asking the person-part. Also note how, when an autonomous person dies, we send a "remove-callback" message to the clock, so that we stop asking this character to act.

```
(define (create-autonomous-person name birthplace activity miserly)
  (create-instance autonomous-person name birthplace activity miserly))
(define (autonomous-person self name birthplace activity miserly)
  (let ((person-part (person self name birthplace)))
    (make-handler
     'autonomous-person
     (make-methods
      'INSTALL
      (lambda ()
          (ask person-part 'INSTALL)
          (ask clock 'ADD-CALLBACK
               (create-clock-callback 'move-and-take-stuff self
                                       'MOVE-AND-TAKE-STUFF)))
      'MOVE-AND-TAKE-STUFF
      (lambda ()
          ;; first move
          (let loop ((moves (random-number activity)))
            (if (= moves 0))
                'done-moving
                (begin
                   (ask self 'MOVE-SOMEWHERE)
                   (loop (- moves 1)))))
          ;; then take stuff
          (if (= (random miserly) 0)
              (ask self 'TAKE-SOMETHING))
          'done-for-this-tick)
      'DTE
      (lambda (perp)
           (ask clock 'REMOVE-CALLBACK self 'move-and-take-stuff)
           (ask self 'SAY '("SHREEEEK! I, uh, suddenly feel very
faint..."))
           (ask person-part 'DIE perp))
      'MOVE-SOMEWHERE
      (lambda ()
           (let ((exit (random-exit (ask self 'LOCATION))))
             (if (not (null? exit)) (ask self 'GO-EXIT exit))))
```

### **Configuring and Running the Game**

Our world is built by the setup procedure that you will find in the file setup.scm. You are the deity of this world. When you call setup with your name, you create the world. It has rooms, objects, and people based on a minor technical college on the banks of the Mighty Chuck River; and it has an avatar (a manifestation of you, the deity, as a person in the world). The avatar is under your control. It goes under your name and is also the value of the globally-accessible variable me. Each time the avatar moves, simulated time passes in the world, and the various other creatures in the world age by a time step, possibly with a change in state (where they are, how healthy they are, etc.). This works by using a clock that sends an activate message to all callbacks that have been created. This causes certain objects to perform specific actions. In addition, you can cause time to pass by explicitly calling the clock, e.g. using (run-clock 20).

If you want to see everything that is happening in the world, do

```
(ask screen 'DEITY-MODE #t) which causes the system to let you act as an all-seeing god. To turn this mode off, do
```

(ask screen 'DEITY-MODE #f) in which case you will only see or hear those things that take place in the same place as your avatar is. To check the status of this mode, do

```
(ask screen 'DEITY-MODE?)
```

To make it easier to use the simulation we have included a convenient procedure, thingnamed for referring to an object *at the location of the avatar*. This procedure is defined in the file objsys.scm.

When you start the simulation, you will find yourself (the avatar) in one of the locations of the world. There are various other characters present somewhere in the world. You can explore this world, but the real goal is to survive the onslaught of the denizens of darkness.

Here is a sample run of a variant of the system (we have added a few new objects to this version but it gives you an idea of what will happen). Rather than describing what's

happening, we'll leave it to you to examine the code that defines the behavior of this world and interpret what is going on.

```
(setup 'vandimort)
;Value: ready
(ask (ask me 'location) 'name)
;Value: legal-seafood
(ask me 'look-around)
You are in legal-seafood
You are not holding anything.
You see stuff in the room: boil-spell
There are no other people around you.
The exits are in directions: east south
;Value: ok
(ask me 'take (thing-named 'boil-spell))
At legal-seafood vandimort says -- I take boil-spell from legal-seafood
;Value: (instance #[compound-procedure 4 handler])
(ask me 'go 'east)
vandimort moves from legal-seafood to great-court
--- the-clock Tick 0 ---
ben-bitdiddle moves from bexley to student-center
ben-bitdiddle moves from student-center to lobby-7
At lobby-7 ben-bitdiddle says -- Hi alyssa-hacker
At lobby-7 ben-bitdiddle says -- I take boil-spell from lobby-7
alyssa-hacker moves from lobby-7 to lobby-10
course-6-frosh moves from eecs-ug-office to eecs-hq
At eecs-hq course-6-frosh says -- Hi grendel
At eecs-hq course-6-frosh says -- I take fireball-spell from eecs-hq
lambda-man moves from edgerton-hall to 34-301
At 34-301 lambda-man says -- Hi registrar
dr-evil moves from edgerton-hall to legal-seafood
mr-bigglesworth moves from eecs-ug-office to eecs-hq
At eecs-hq mr-bigglesworth says -- Hi course-6-frosh grendel
At eecs-hq mr-bigglesworth says -- I take fireball-spell from course-6-
frosh
At eecs-hq course-6-frosh says -- I lose fireball-spell
At eecs-hq course-6-frosh says -- Yaaaah! I am upset!
At eecs-hq mr-bigglesworth says -- What are you doing still up?
Everyone back to their rooms!
At eecs-hq course-6-frosh goes home to eecs-ug-office
At eecs-hq grendel goes home to eecs-hq
grendel moves from eecs-hg to 34-301
At 34-301 grendel says -- Hi lambda-man registrar
grendel moves from 34-301 to edgerton-hall
At edgerton-hall grendel says -- I take slug-spell from edgerton-hall
registrar moves from 34-301 to edgerton-hall
At edgerton-hall registrar says -- Hi grendel
At edgerton-hall registrar says -- I take slug-spell from grendel
```

```
At edgerton-hall grendel says -- I lose slug-spell
At edgerton-hall grendel says -- Yaaaah! I am upset!
At edgerton-hall registrar takes a bite out of grendel
At edgerton-hall grendel says -- Ouch! 2 hits is more than I want!
;Value: #t
(run-clock 2)
--- the-clock Tick 1 ---
ben-bitdiddle moves from lobby-7 to lobby-10
At lobby-10 ben-bitdiddle says -- Hi alyssa-hacker
ben-bitdiddle moves from lobby-10 to 10-250
At 10-250 ben-bitdiddle says -- I take boil-spell from 10-250
alyssa-hacker moves from lobby-10 to building-13
course-6-frosh moves from eecs-ug-office to eecs-hq
At eecs-hq course-6-frosh says -- Hi mr-bigglesworth
course-6-frosh moves from eecs-hq to 34-301
At 34-301 course-6-frosh says -- Hi lambda-man
lambda-man moves from 34-301 to stata-center
dr-evil moves from legal-seafood to edgerton-hall
At edgerton-hall dr-evil says -- Hi registrar grendel
dr-evil moves from edgerton-hall to 34-301
At 34-301 dr-evil says -- Hi course-6-frosh
At 34-301 dr-evil says -- I'll let you off this once...
mr-bigglesworth moves from eecs-hq to eecs-ug-office
At eecs-ug-office mr-bigglesworth says -- Grrr... When I catch those
students...
grendel moves from edgerton-hall to 34-301
At 34-301 grendel says -- Hi dr-evil course-6-frosh
registrar moves from edgerton-hall to legal-seafood
--- the-clock Tick 2 ---
ben-bitdiddle moves from 10-250 to lobby-10
ben-bitdiddle moves from lobby-10 to 10-250
At 10-250 ben-bitdiddle says -- I try but cannot take blackboard
alyssa-hacker moves from building-13 to lobby-10
course-6-frosh moves from 34-301 to stata-center
At stata-center course-6-frosh says -- Hi lambda-man
course-6-frosh moves from stata-center to stata-center
At stata-center course-6-frosh says -- Hi lambda-man
lambda-man moves from stata-center to stata-center
At stata-center lambda-man says -- Hi course-6-frosh
At stata-center lambda-man says -- I take boil-spell from stata-center
dr-evil moves from 34-301 to eecs-hq
dr-evil moves from eecs-hq to 6001-lab
At 6001-lab dr-evil says -- Grrr... When I catch those students...
mr-bigglesworth moves from eecs-ug-office to eecs-hq
grendel moves from 34-301 to eecs-hq
At eecs-hq grendel says -- Hi mr-bigglesworth
At eecs-hq grendel says -- I take fireball-spell from mr-bigglesworth
At eecs-hq mr-bigglesworth says -- I lose fireball-spell
At eecs-hq mr-bigglesworth says -- Yaaaah! I am upset!
registrar moves from legal-seafood to edgerton-hall
At edgerton-hall registrar 's belly rumbles
;Value: done
 (ask screen 'deity-mode #f)
;Value: #t
```

```
(run-clock 3)
--- the-clock Tick 3 ---
--- the-clock Tick 4 ---
At great-court ben-bitdiddle says -- Hi vandimort
At great-court ben-bitdiddle says -- I take boil-spell from great-court
At great-court alyssa-hacker says -- Hi ben-bitdiddle vandimort
;Value: done
(ask me 'look-around)
You are in great-court
You are holding: boil-spell
You see stuff in the room: flag-pole lovely-trees
You see other people: alyssa-hacker ben-bitdiddle
The exits are in directions: up west north
;Value: ok
```

In parts of this project, you will be asked to elaborate or enhance the world (e.g. add things in setup.scm), as well as add to the behaviors or kinds of objects in the system (e.g. modify objtypes.scm). If you do make such changes, you must remember to re-evaluate all definitions and re-run (setup 'your-name) if you change anything, just to make sure that all your definitions are up to date. An easy way to do this is to reload all the files (be sure to save your files to disk before reloading), and then re-evaluate (setup 'your-name).

# Warmup Exercises

Your TA may ask to see these exercises in tutorial on April 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup>, but these do not need to be formally submitted as part of the project. These exercises are intended to help you get a head start on understanding our object-oriented world before you start writing code. Note that for the first two exercises, the result is a diagram, which you can draw by hand.

### Warmup Exercise 1

In the transcript above there is a line: (ask (ask me 'location) 'name). What kind of value does (ask me 'location) return here? What other messages, besides name, can you send to this value?

### Warmup Exercise 2

Look through the code in objtypes.scm to discover which classes are defined in this system and how the classes are related. For example, place is a subclass of named-object. Also look through the code in setup.scm to see what the world looks like. Draw a class diagram like the ones presented in lecture. You will find such a diagram helpful (maybe indispensable) in doing the programming assignment.

## Warmup Exercise 3

Look at the contents of the file setup.scm. What places are defined? How are they interconnected? Draw a map. You must be able to show the places and the exits that allow one to go from one place to a neighboring place.

## Warmup Exercise 4

Aside from you, the avatar, what other characters roam this world? What sorts of things are around? How is it determined which room each person and thing starts out in?

# Warmup Exercise 5

Create an environment diagram corresponding to the evaluation of (define my-foo (thing 'foo some-location)). Warning: this environment diagram can get out of hand, and we want you to use this exercise to get a sense of how the system works. So, don't worry about the value bound to some-location, just draw it as a blob. Similarly, don't worry about showing the object bound to maker. For the bindings associated with methods, just leave the actual value blank. Once you have drawn your environment model, draw boxes around the structures that correspond to each of the superparts of the object created.

# Warmup Exercise 6

To warm up, load the three files objsys.scm, objtypes.scm and setup.scm and start the simulation by typing (setup '<your name>) (where you replace <your name> with an actual name, of course!). Walk the avatar to a room that has an unowned object. Have the avatar take this object, only to drop it somewhere else. Show a transcript of this session.

# **Computer Exercises**

What to turn in: When preparing your answers to the questions below, please just turn in the procedures that you have either written or changed (highlighting the actual portions changed) for each problem, a brief description of your changes, and a brief transcript indicating how you tested the procedure. Put each of your solutions and associated transcript into a file, and submit that through the tutor. *Please do not overwhelm your TA with huge volumes of material*!!

### Some general hints for success:

• When you need to test a new object that you have created, you can just "create" it in front of you after you run setup. For example, to test a wand (see below), you can use

```
(begin (setup 'my-name)
            (create-wand 'my-wand (ask me 'location))
```

```
(ask me 'take (thing-named 'my-wand))
(ask (thing-named 'my-wand) 'wave)))
(au should not need to shonge the seture code to do seture))
```

You should not need to change the setup code to do simple tests.

- Don't forget to re-run setup after you change the code for one of the classes! That is, re-evaluating the class's procedure definition does not change the instances of the class that already exist in the world.
- Never use thing-named in object code, only for testing; this is a corollary to never using "me" except in testing.
- Outside of the code for create-world, variables such as lobby-10 are not bound to a value. This means you can't teleport there, or create objects there, or ask it questions without filtering over the variable all-rooms.

# Hairy Cdr and the Chamber of Stata

Recently, the Wizard's Institute of Technocracy (WIT) revealed itself as an additional department at MIT. It came full-fledged with a large mysterious building topped by twin towers. Preliminary exploration of this building revealed a very confusing interior (kind of maze-like) and an utter lack of square corners. Deep within the center of the building is the reputed Chamber of Stata; the source for magic on the eastern seaboard. To the non-muggles, the building is chock-full of mystical energy, and students have flocked to the new department. We follow the adventures of Hairy Cdr, a young student at WIT who narrowly escaped destruction at the hands of a notoriously evil wizard Lord Vandimort.

# Computer Exercise 1: An adventure of self-discovery

We have provided you a powerful tool for exploring the structure of the object system in the form of the procedure show. For example, after doing a (setup 'your-name), we can examine the avatar instance with:

```
(show me)
INSTANCE (instance #[compound-procedure 14 handler])
TYPE: (avatar person mobile-thing thing named-object root
container)
HANDLER: #[compound-procedure 14 handler]
TYPE: avatar
(methods (look-around #[compound-procedure 18])
         (qo #[compound-procedure 16])
         (die #[compound-procedure 15]))
 Parent frame: #[environment 19]
 person-part: #[compound-procedure 20 handler]
   Parent frame: global-environment
   self:
                 (instance #[compound-procedure 14 handler])
   name:
                 your-name
                  (instance #[compound-procedure 21 handler])
   birthplace:
;Value: instance
```

Your numbers may differ, as they are assigned based on when the procedures are created, but the form should be the same. The printout includes the type and state of the object, including the handlers for the parents of the object. From here, you can continue to explore the world by looking at any of the procedures displayed. For example, to look at the birthplace (which was (instance #[compound-procedure 21 handler]):

```
(show #[compound-procedure 21 handler])
HANDLER: #[compound-procedure 21 handler]
TYPE: place
(methods (exits #[compound-procedure 32])
        (exit-towards #[compound-procedure 31])
        (add-exit #[compound-procedure 30]))
 Parent frame: #[environment 33]
                 #[compound-procedure 34 handler]
 named-part:
 container-part: #[compound-procedure 35 handler]
 exits:
                ((instance #[compound-procedure 36 handler]))
   Parent frame: global-environment
   self: (instance #[compound-procedure 21 handler])
   name:
               graduation-stage
¡Value: handler
```

In this manner, you can explore the any object in the system. You can use #@21 as a shortcut for #[compound-procedure 21 handler].

- Turn in a copy of the show procedure output corresponding to the thing-part of the avatar object. You'll need to go up the inheritance tree a little ways to find it.
- Turn in a copy of the show procedure output corresponding to the container-part of the place in which the avatar resides.
- After your avatar has moved from its birthplace, use the show procedures to demonstrate what you discovered in warmup exercise 6 about the values of the location variables in thing and mobile-thing.
- Finally, investigate all the superclass handlers in the avatar object. Does the value of the self variable ever change? If it does change, what other thing(s) does it point to? If it doesn't, what does it always point to?

### Computer Exercise 2: I know I had one of those things somewhere....

For many of the things that follow, it is going to be handy to be able to tell if a person has in his/her possession either a specific type of thing, or a specific instance of a thing. For example, we might want to know if a person has any objects of type spell:

```
(ask me `HAS-A `spell)
;Value: ((instance #[compound-procedure 63 handler]))
```

That is, we can ask if some person (me in this case) has any objects of a particular type. This should look through the set of THINGS held by the person and return a list of those objects, or the empty list if the person does not possess any objects of this type.

The second behavior we want is similar, but now we are looking for an instance of an object with a particular name:

(ask me `HAS-A-THING-NAMED `slug-spell)
;Value: ((instance #[compound-procedure 63 handler]))

Modify your definition of person to add these two new methods. Demonstrate them working on some test cases.

### **Computer Exercise 3: Scoping the Joint**

Hairy is a big fan of Star Wars – he has seen it a zillion times (Hey – George Lucas was a Hogwarts' graduate). As a consequence, a key element in his tool of tricks is an ability to sense the locations of other people in the world, by "feeling the force".

Add a method FEEL-THE-FORCE to the Avatar which displays the name and location of everybody. You will find the procedure all-people (see the file setup.scm) useful. And you may find the procedure for-each useful. The behavior we want is shown below (note that it sees "me" – vandimort in this case):

(ask me 'FEEL-THE-FORCE)

vandimort is at great-court ben-bitdiddle is at lobby-10 alyssa-hacker is at grendels-den course-6-frosh is at bexley lambda-man is at 34-301 susan-hockfield is at edgerton-hall eric-grimson is at lobby-10 dr-evil is at stata-center mr-bigglesworth is at student-center grendel is at baker registrar is at great-court ;Value: #[unspecified-return-value]

### **Computer Exercise 4: Sometimes Being Vague is in Vogue**

Another key component of Hairy Cdr's success is his Ring of Obfuscation. This brass ring engraved with the shape of a beaver prevents the person carrying it from being seen! Implement a new type of mobile-thing, a ring-of-obfuscation. A ring-of-obfuscation is an instance of an object that does not accept any new types of messages, being the simplest extension of a mobile-object. Then change person so that when they look for the PEOPLE-AROUND, people who are carrying rings-of-obfuscation are not returned. Note that the "feel the force" ability should be fooled by such rings, so you may want to alter your solution to Exercise 3 to reflect this. Modify the code in setup.scm to populate the world with some instances of ring-ofobfuscation.

Turn in the entire ring-of-obfuscation code, but only the methods changed in person and avatar. Demonstrate the effectiveness of your ring-of-obfuscation objects with test cases.

### Computer Exercise 5: Wand to cause some trouble?

A spell is a type of mobile-thing which can be USEd to effect some magical work. However, the only way to use a spell is to wave a wand around. Implement a new type of object, a wand. Since a wand should be something that can be transported from place to place, you should think about the class of objects from which it should inherit. Wands have no interesting properties of their own, other than a name and a location. A wand should automatically figure out its caster by looking at its location, and not work unless a person is carrying it. A wand needs to support two methods:

- **ZAP:** takes a target to be zapped as its argument. It should pick a random spell from the caster's THINGS, print out a message (using the caster's EMIT method) about how the caster is waving the wand and saying the spell's INCANT, then ask the spell to USE with the caster and the target. If the caster isn't carrying any spells, it should print out a message about how the caster is waving the wand, but nothing is happening.
- WAVE: takes no arguments. It picks a random target from the set of things at the caster's location, picks a random spell from the caster's THINGS, prints out a message (using the caster's EMIT) about how the caster is waving the wand and saying the spell's INCANT, then asks the spell to USE with the caster and the target. You should do this by employing the ZAP method. You should decide whether you want this to apply only to people, or to any type of thing. You should probably also ensure that you don't accidentally cast a spell on yourself.

Turn in the entire wand code. Demonstrate your additions with test cases (create a wand, pick up a spell, and ZAP/WAVE for fun and profit).

# **Computer Exercise 6: Spell out the options**

Examine the (instantiate-spells) code in setup.scm. This should help you understand the kinds of properties that spells possess.

Note that the two spells we provide seem to implicitly assume that the target is a person (unless other things have noses and mouths!) yet the code we wrote in the previous exercise could easily have a WAVE action apply to a non-person object or thing. Modify the code in setup.scm so that the two spells we provide only work on targets that are people. Reload your system and demonstrate this.

Now, create a new spell, called WIND-OF-DOOM. This spell if applied to a person should cause, at random, up to 2 units of suffering. If applied to any other object, it should destroy the target.

Finally, create some completely new spell of your design and add it to the world.

Demonstrate tests using all of your spells.

## **Computer Exercise 7: ZAPpity do dah!**

The halls of Stata are filled with enterprising WIT students who try out their spells on anybody and everybody. Implement a new type of class, a wit-student, which acts like an autonomous-person, but also attempts to ZAP people each tick of the clock. Every tick, the student should try to find a wand in its things, then find another person in the room, and if both are found, ZAP the wand at the person. If the student has a wand, but there are no people present, then the student should WAVE the wand at a random target. You may wish to look at the INSTALL code for autonomous-person to see how to add clock callbacks. Remember that the students should stop zapping or waving their wands when they're dead.

In order to assist in the wand-zapping, each student should begin their life carrying a wand. This wand should end up in the usual THINGS list so that it can be stolen, dropped, etc.

Alter setup.scm to populate the world with students instead of autonomous-persons. Turn in your code for wit-student and show examples of the working.

### **Computer Exercise 8: I profess, these students are incorrigible!**

In addition to students, WIT employs a number of professors whose job is to teach students spells! Implement a wit-professor that acts like a wit-student, except each tick of the clock it also looks around for a student to whom he or she can teach a spell. Teaching a spell to a student involves cloning a spell out of the Chamber of Stata and into the student's inventory.

Once you've implemented wit-professor, uncomment the line in populate-players in setup.scm.

Turn in a listing of the wit-professor code and a test run that shows it working.

### **Computer Exercise 9: Oh yeah, well take that!**

To make things a fair fight, we want to add something that can counteract spells. So create a new type of object, called a counterspell. A counterspell should have the property that if a character attempts to cast a specific spell on a target, and the target possesses the appropriate counterspell, then the spell itself does not take effect. Thus, in

addition to creating counter spells, you will want to modify your spells to obey this new behavior.

### Computer Exercise 10: See this scar in the shape of a Lambda?

Lastly, it's time to implement Hairy Cdr himself. Hairy is a WIT student, but more importantly, he's the "chosen one". Thus he cannot die until the series is finished, which at the current rate will be long after you graduate. Any time Hairy is about to die, his scar flares brightly and the person attempting to kill him dies instead (like Lord Vandimort). More specifically, when a chosen-one is asked to SUFFER enough to kill them, it should print out an appropriate message and then kill the perpetrator, leaving the chosen-one unharmed.

Note that we are asking you to have a chosen one override the SUFFER method, rather than the DIE method. Why? What could go wrong if a chosen one were to implement this behavior using the DIE method instead?

As usual, turn in your code that implements the chosen-one and test cases that demonstrate it working.

## **Computer Exercise 11: Your turn**

Now that you have had an opportunity to play with our "world" of characters, places, and things, we want you to extend this world in some substantial way. The last part of this project gives you an opportunity to do this. As you haven't had much freedom to design your own code up until now, this exercise gives you the opportunity to demonstrate your knowledge of design principles. **NOTE: this exercise is worth significantly more points than the others; give it the time it deserves!** 

This is your opportunity to have fun with the game! There's only one hard requirement: you must add at least one new class to the system. Other than that, you are free to take the simulation in any direction that interests and excites you. You don't have to stick with the Hairy Cdr theme if you don't want to. Here are a few ideas that we've come up with for extensions, but you certainly aren't limited to these:

- **Dementors** They're like trolls, but immune to suffering. They can only be killed with the patronus spell.
- **Moving Exits** Exits that change their destination over time.
- **Brooms** If the person is carrying a broom they can use "flying" exits to move around campus quickly.
- **House points** Each student belongs to a house. Doing certain activities adds points, doing others subtracts points.
- **Spell Points** Every person has an amount of spell points. Casting spells uses up spell points, which return slowly over time.

Remember to select an extension that you have an expectation of finishing. If you're going to attempt something ambitious, remember to have a fall back plan that meets the objectives for the exercise!

### Stage One: Plan

Here, we want you to plan out the design for some extensions to your world. You will submit a brief description of your plan by email to your TA on *Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>* at the latest (send earlier if possible!).

We want you to design some new elements to our world. The first thing we want you to do is design a new class of objects to incorporate into the world. To do this, you should plan each of the following elements:

- **Object class:** First, define the new class you are going to build. What kind of object is it? What are the general behaviors that you want the class to capture?
- **Class hierarchy:** How does your new class relate to the class hierarchy of the existing world? Is it a subclass of an existing class? Is it a superclass of one or more existing classes?
- **Class state information:** What internal state information does each instance of the class need to know?
- **Class methods:** What are the methods of the new class? What methods will it inherit from other classes? What methods will shadow methods of other classes?
- **Demonstration plan:** How will you demonstrate the behavior of instances of your new class within the existing simulation world?

### **Stage Two: Implementation**

Attempt to follow your plan. Remember to test your code in a number of ways to ensure that it does what you intended it to do.

### **Stage Three: Submission**

Your submission should have a couple of components:

### **Design of your improvements**

Write up a BRIEF description of your design, addressing each of the issues raised above.

### Code

For this part of the project, using the online tutor submit your code and a transcript of your system in action. Do not just submit the entire file of objects, rather submit only those changes (if any) that you have made to

the existing system, and the new code that you have written. Be sure to document appropriately!

You will be graded based on the quality and scope of your design, how well you implemented your design, and the quality of your documentation.

We will award prizes for the most interesting modifications combined with the cleverest technical ideas. Note that it is more impressive to implement a simple, elegant idea than to amass a pile of characters and places.

### **Collaboration Statement**

Please respond to the following question as part of you answers to the questions in the project set:

We encourage you to work with others on problem sets as long as you acknowledge it (see the 6.001 General Information handout) and so long as you observe the rules on collaboration and using "bibles". If you cooperated with other students, LA's, or others, please indicate your consultants' names and how they collaborated. Be sure that your actions are consistent with the posted course policy on collaboration.