Where we are...

The (an) essence of objects

- Multiple representations
- Encapsulation of state with behavior
- Subtyping
- Inheritance (incremental definition of behaviors)
- "Open recursion" through self

What’s missing

- The peculiar status of classes (which are both run-time and compile-time things)
- Named types with declared subtyping
- Recursive types
- Run-time type analysis (casting, etc.)
- (...lots of other stuff)
Models in General

No such thing as a “perfect model” — The nature of a model is to abstract away from details!
So models are never just “good”: they are always “good for some specific set of purposes.”

Models of Java

Lots of different purposes → lots of different kinds of models
♦ Source-level vs. bytecode level
♦ Large (inclusive) vs. small (simple) models
♦ Models of type system vs. models of run-time features (not entirely separate issues)
♦ Models of specific features (exceptions, concurrency, reflection, class loading, …)
♦ Models designed for extension
**Featherweight Java**

Purpose: model the “core OO features” and their types and **nothing else**.

History:
- Originally proposed by a Penn PhD student (Atsushi Igarashi) as a tool for analyzing GJ (“Java plus generics”)
- Since used by many others for studying a wide variety of Java features and proposed extensions

**Things left out**
- Reflection, concurrency, class loading, inner classes, ...
- Exceptions, loops, ...
- Interfaces, overloading, ...

CIS 500, 1–3 December
Things left out

- Reflection, concurrency, class loading, inner classes, ...
- Exceptions, loops, ...
- Interfaces, overloading, ...
- Assignment (!!!)

Things left in

- Classes and objects
- Methods and method invocation
- Fields and field access
- Inheritance (including open recursion through this)
- Casting

Example

```java
class A extends Object { A() { super(); } }
class B extends Object { B() { super(); } }
class Pair extends Object {
    Object fst;
    Object snd;

    Pair(Object fst, Object snd) {
        super(); this.fst=fst; this.snd=snd;
    }

    Pair setfst(Object newfst) {
        return new Pair(newfst, this.snd);
    }
}
```

Conventions

For syntactic regularity...

- Always include superclass (even when it is Object)
- Always write out constructor (even when trivial)
- Always call super from constructor (even when no arguments are passed)
- Always explicitly name receiver object in method invocation or field access (even when it is this)
- Methods always consist of a single return expression
- Constructors always
  * Take same number (and types) of parameters as fields of the class
  * Assign constructor parameters to “local fields”
  * Call super constructor to assign remaining fields
  * Do nothing else
Formalizing FJ

Nominal type systems

Big dichotomy in the world of programming languages:

- **Structural** type systems:
  - What matters about a type (for typing, subtyping, etc.) is just its structure.
  - Names are just convenient (but inessential) abbreviations.

- **Nominal** type systems:
  - Types are always named.
  - Typechecker mostly manipulates names, not structures.
  - Subtyping is declared explicitly by programmer (and checked for consistency by compiler).

Advantages of Structural Systems

- Somewhat simpler, cleaner, and more elegant (no need to always work wrt. a set of "name definitions")
- Easier to extend (e.g. with parametric polymorphism)

Caveat: when recursive types are considered, some of this simplicity and elegance slips away..

Advantages of Nominal Systems

- Recursive types fall out easily
- Using names everywhere makes typechecking (and subtyping, etc.) easy and efficient
- Type names are also useful at run-time (for casting, type testing, reflection, ...).

Java (like most other mainstream languages) is a nominal system.
Representing objects

Our decision to omit assignment has a nice side effect...
The only ways in which two objects can differ are (1) their classes and
(2) the parameters passed to their constructor when they were created.
All this information is available in the new expression that creates an
object. So we can identify the created object with the new expression.

Formally: object values have the form new C(t)

Syntax (terms and values)

\[ t ::= \]
\[ \begin{align*}
  x & \quad \text{variable} \\
  t.f & \quad \text{field access} \\
  t.m(t) & \quad \text{method invocation} \\
  \text{new } C(t) & \quad \text{object creation} \\
  (C) \ t & \quad \text{cast}
\end{align*} \]

\[ v ::= \]
\[ \begin{align*}
  \text{new } C(t) & \quad \text{object creation}
\end{align*} \]

Syntax (methods and classes)

\[ K ::= \]
\[ \begin{align*}
  C(C \ t) \{ \text{super}(t); \ \text{this} = t; \}\}
\]

\[ M ::= \]
\[ \begin{align*}
  C = (C \ t) \{ \text{return } t; \}\}
\]

\[ CL ::= \]
\[ \begin{align*}
  \text{class } C \text{ extends } C \{ C \ t; \ K \ R \}\}
\]
Subtyping

As in Java, subtyping in FJ is declared.
Assume we have a (global, fixed) class table $CT$ mapping class names to definitions.

$$CT(C) = \text{class } C \text{ extends } D \{\ldots\}$$

- $C <: D$
- $C <: C$
- $C <: D \quad D <: E$
- $C <: E$

More auxiliary definitions

From the class table, we can read off a number of other useful properties of the definitions (which we will need later for typechecking and operational semantics)...
Method type lookup

\[ \text{CT}(C) - \text{class } C \text{ extends } D \{ C \not\in K \} \]
\[ \text{B} \in (b, x) \{ \text{return } t; \} \in K \]
\[ \text{mtype}(m, C) = b \rightarrow B \]

\[ \text{CT}(C) - \text{class } C \text{ extends } D \{ C \not\in K \} \]
\[ \text{m} \text{ is not defined in } K \]
\[ \text{mtype}(m, C) = \text{mtype}(m, D) \]

Method body lookup

\[ \text{CT}(C) - \text{class } C \text{ extends } D \{ C \not\in K \} \]
\[ \text{B} \in (b, x) \{ \text{return } t; \} \in K \]
\[ \text{mbody}(m, C) = (x, t) \]

\[ \text{CT}(C) - \text{class } C \text{ extends } D \{ C \not\in K \} \]
\[ \text{m} \text{ is not defined in } K \]
\[ \text{mbody}(m, C) = \text{mbody}(m, D) \]

Valid method overriding

\[ \text{mtype}(m, D) = b \rightarrow D_0 \text{ implies } C \rightarrow b \text{ and } C_0 \rightarrow D_0 \]
\[ \text{override}(m, D, C \rightarrow C_0) \]

Evaluation
The example again

class A extends Object { A() { super(); } }

class B extends Object { B() { super(); } }

class Pair extends Object {
    Object fst;
    Object snd;

    Pair(Object fst, Object snd) {
        super(); this.fst=fst; this.snd=snd; }

    Pair setfst(Object newfst) {
        return new Pair(newfst, this.snd); }
}

Evaluation

Projection:

new Pair(new A(), new B().snd) → new B()

Evaluation

Casting:

(Pair)new Pair(new A(), new B()) → new Pair(new A(), new B())

Method invocation:

new Pair(new A(), new B().setfst(new B()))

→

[ newfst → new B(),
  this → new Pair(new A(), new B()) ]

new Pair(newfst, this.snd)

i.e., new Pair(new B(), new Pair(new A(), new B()).snd)
Evaluation rules

\[
\text{fields}(C) = C \triangleright \quad \begin{aligned}
\text{(new } C(\ell)) \cdot f & \rightarrow v_i \\
\text{(new } C(\ell)) \cdot m & \rightarrow \text{new } C(\ell) t_0
\end{aligned}
\]

\text{(E-PROJNEW)} \quad \text{(E-INVKNEW)}

\[
\text{mbody}(m, C) = (\ell, t_0) \\
\begin{aligned}
\text{(new } C(\ell)) \cdot m & \rightarrow u, \text{this } \rightarrow \text{new } C(\ell) t_0
\end{aligned}
\]

\text{C \prec D} \quad \begin{aligned}
\text{(D)(new } C(\ell)) & \rightarrow \text{new } C(\ell)
\end{aligned}
\]

\text{(E-CASTNEW)}

\text{plus some congruence rules...}

Typing

\[
\begin{aligned}
t_0 \rightarrow t'_0
\end{aligned}
\]

\text{(E-FIELD)}

\[
\begin{aligned}
t_0.f & \rightarrow t'_0.f \\
t_0 & \rightarrow t'_0
\end{aligned}
\]

\text{(E-INVK-RECV)} \quad \text{(E-INVK-ARG)} \quad \text{(E-NEW-ARG)} \quad \text{(E-CAST)}

\[
\begin{aligned}
t_0.m(\ell) & \rightarrow t'_0.m(\ell) \\
t_1 & \rightarrow t'_1 \\
\text{v}_0.m(\ell, t_1, \ell) & \rightarrow \text{v}_0.m(\ell, t'_1, \ell) \\
t_1 & \rightarrow t'_1 \\
\text{new } C(\ell, t_1, \ell) & \rightarrow \text{new } C(\ell, t'_1, \ell) \\
t_0 & \rightarrow t'_0
\end{aligned}
\]

\[
\begin{aligned}
(C)t_0 & \rightarrow (C)t'_0
\end{aligned}
\]
Notes

FJ has no rule of subsumption (because we want to follow Java). The typing rules are algorithmic.
(Where would this make a difference?...)

Typing rules

\[ \frac{x:C \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash x : C} \quad \text{(T-VAR)} \]

Typing rules

\[ \Gamma \vdash t_0 : C_0 \quad \text{fields}(C_0) \subseteq \mathcal{F} \]
\[ \Gamma \vdash t_0.f_i : C_i \quad \text{(T-FIELD)} \]

Typing rules

\[ \Gamma \vdash t_0 : D \quad D <: C \]
\[ \Gamma \vdash (C)t_0 : C \quad \text{(T-UCAST)} \]

Typing rules

\[ \Gamma \vdash t_0 : D \quad C <: D \quad C \neq D \]
\[ \Gamma \vdash (C)t_0 : C \quad \text{(T-DCAST)} \]

Why two cast rules?
Typing rules

\[\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_0 : D \quad D \prec C}{\Gamma \vdash (C)t_0 : C}\]  \hspace{1cm} \text{(T-UCAST)}

\[\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_0 : D \quad C \prec D \quad C \not\prec C'}{\Gamma \vdash (C)t_0 : C}\]  \hspace{1cm} \text{(T-DCAST)}

Why two cast rules? Because that's how Java does it!

Typing rules

\[\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_0 : C_0}{mtype(m, C_0) \rightarrow C_0}
\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : C \quad C \prec B}{\Gamma \vdash t_0.m(t) : C}\]  \hspace{1cm} \text{(T-INVk)}

Note that this rule “has subsumption built in” — i.e., the typing relation in FJ is written in the \textit{algorithmic} style of TAPL chapter 16, not the declarative style of chapter 15.

Why? Because Java does it this way!

Typing rules

\[\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_0 : C_0}{mtype(m, C_0) \rightarrow C_0}
\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : C \quad C \prec B}{\Gamma \vdash t_0.m(t) : C}\]  \hspace{1cm} \text{(T-INVk)}

Note that this rule “has subsumption built in” — i.e., the typing relation in FJ is written in the \textit{algorithmic} style of TAPL chapter 16, not the declarative style of chapter 15.

Why? Because Java does it this way!

But why does Java do it this way??
Java typing is algorithmic

The Java typing relation is defined in the algorithmic style, for (at least) two reasons:

1. In order to perform static overloading resolution, we need to be able to speak of “the type” of an expression.
2. We would otherwise run into trouble with typing of conditional expressions.

Let’s look at the second in more detail...

Java conditionals

\[
t_1 \in \text{bool} \quad t_2 \in T_2 \quad t_3 \in T_3
\]
\[
t_1 \ ? \ t_2 \ : \ t_3 \in \?\]

Java typing must be algorithmic

We haven’t included them in FJ, but full Java has both interfaces and conditional expressions.

The two together actually make the declarative style of typing rules unworkable!

Java conditionals

\[
t_1 \in \text{bool} \quad t_2 \in T_2 \quad t_3 \in T_3
\]
\[
t_1 \ ? \ t_2 \ : \ t_3 \in \?\]

Actual Java rule (algorithmic):

\[
t_1 \in \text{bool} \quad t_2 \in T_2 \quad t_3 \in T_3
\]
\[
t_1 \ ? \ t_2 \ : \ t_3 \in \min(T_2, T_3)\]
More standard (declarative) rule:

\[
\begin{align*}
t_1 \in \text{bool} & \quad t_2 \in T & \quad t_3 \in T \\
\text{?} & \quad t_2 : t_3 \in T
\end{align*}
\]

Algorithmic version:

\[
\begin{align*}
t_1 \in \text{bool} & \quad t_2 \in T & \quad t_3 \in T \\
\text{?} & \quad t_2 : t_3 \in T \vee T_3
\end{align*}
\]

Requires joins!

Java has no joins

But, in full Java (with interfaces), there are types that have no join!

E.g.:

```java
interface I {...}
interface J {...}
interface K extends I,J {...}
interface L extends I,J {...}
```

K and L have no join (least upper bound) — both I and J are common upper bounds, but neither of these is less than the other.

So: algorithmic typing rules are really our only option.

FJ Typing rules

```
\text{fields}(C) - \overline{B} \overline{I}
\Gamma \vdash \overline{C} : \overline{D}
\overline{C} \prec : \overline{B}
\Gamma \vdash \text{new } C(\overline{C}) : \overline{C}
```

(T-NEW)
Typing rules (methods, classes)

\[ \Gamma : o, this : C \vdash t_0 : E_0 \quad E_0 <: C_0 \]

\[ \text{CT}(C) - \text{class } C \text{ extends } D \{ \ldots \} \]

\[ \text{override}(m, D, C \rightarrow C_0) \]

\[ C_0 = (\overline{C} \ x) \{ \text{return } t_0; \} \text{ OK in } C \]

\[ k - C(\overline{\delta} \ g, \ C \ I) \{ \text{super}(g); \ this.I = I; \} \]

\[ \text{fields}(D) - \overline{\delta} \ g \quad \text{OK in } C \]

\[ \text{class } C \text{ extends } D \{ C \ I; \ K \ I \} \text{ OK} \]

---

Properties

---

Preservation

**Theorem** [Preservation]: If \( \Gamma \vdash t : C \) and \( t \rightarrow t' \), then \( \Gamma \vdash t' : C' \) for some \( C' <: C \).

**Proof**: Straightforward induction.

---

Preservation

**Theorem** [Preservation]: If \( \Gamma \vdash t : C \) and \( t \rightarrow t' \), then \( \Gamma \vdash t' : C' \) for some \( C' <: C \).

**Proof**: Straightforward induction. ???
Preservation?

Surprise: well-typed programs can step to ill-typed ones!
(How?)

Solution: “Stupid Cast” typing rule

Add another typing rule, marked “stupid” to

$$\Gamma \vdash t_0 : D \quad C \not\to D \quad D \not\to C$$

\underline{stupid warning}

$$\Gamma \vdash (C)t_0 : C$$

(T-SCAST)
Solution: “Stupid Cast” typing rule

Add another typing rule, marked “stupid” to

\[ \Gamma \vdash t_0 : D \quad C \not\in D \quad D \not\in C \]

stupid warning

\[ \Gamma \vdash (C)t_0 : C \quad (T-SCAST) \]

This is an example of a modeling technicality; not very interesting or deep, but we have to get it right if we’re going to claim that the model is an accurate representation of (this fragment of) Java.

Correspondence with Java

Let’s try to state precisely what we mean by “FJ corresponds to Java”:

Claim:

1. Every syntactically well-formed FJ program is also a syntactically well-formed Java program.
2. A syntactically well-formed FJ program is typable in FJ (without using the T-SCAST rule.) iff it is typable in Java.
3. A well-typed FJ program behaves the same in FJ as in Java. (E.g., evaluating it in FJ diverges iff compiling and running it in Java diverges.)

Of course, without a formalization of full Java, we cannot prove this claim. But it’s still very useful to say precisely what we are trying to accomplish—in particular, it provides a rigorous way of judging counterexamples.

(Cf. “conservative extension” between logics.)

Alternative approaches to casting

- Loosen preservation theorem
- Use big-step semantics

Progress
**Progress**

Problem: well-typed programs can get stuck.

How?

**Formalizing Progress**

Solution: Weaken the statement of the progress theorem to

A well-typed FJ term is either a value or can reduce one step or is stuck at a failing cast.

Formalizing this takes a little more work...

**Evaluation Contexts**

\[
E ::= \quad \text{evaluation contexts}
\]

\[
[ ] \quad \text{hole}
\]

\[
E.f
\]

\[
E.m(e)
\]

\[
v.m(v, E, e)
\]

\[
\text{new } C(v, E, e)
\]

\[
(C)E
\]

Evaluation contexts capture the notion of the “next subterm to be reduced,” in the sense that, if \( t \rightarrow t' \), then we can express \( t \) and \( t' \) as \( t = E[x] \) and \( t' = E[x'] \) for a unique \( E, x, \) and \( x' \), with \( x \rightarrow x' \) by one of the computation rules \( E\text{-PROJNEW}, E\text{-INVKNEW}, \) or \( E\text{-CASTNEW} \).
Theorem [Progress]: Suppose $t$ is a closed, well-typed normal form. Then either (1) $t$ is a value, or (2) $t \rightarrow t'$ for some $t'$, or (3) for some evaluation context $E$, we can express $t$ as $t = E[(C)\{\text{new } D(\overline{v})\}]$, with $D \not\in C$. \

\[\text{CIS 500, 1-3 December}\]