

Script generated by TTT

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Outline**Prototype based programming**

- 1 Basic language features
- 2 Structured data
- 3 Code reusage
- 4 Imitating Object Orientation

“Why bother with modelling types for my quick hack?”

Motivation – Polemic**Bothersome features**

- Specifying types for **singletons**
- Getting **generic types** right inspite of co- and contra-variance
- Massage language-imposed inheritance to (mostly) avoid redundancy

Prototype based programming

- **Start by creating examples**
- **Only very basic concepts**
- Introduce complexity only by **need**
- Shape language features yourself!

“Let’s go back to basic concepts – *Lua*”

Basic Language Features

- Chunks being sequences of statements.
- Global variables implicitly defined

```
s = 0;
i = 1           -- Single line comment
p = i+s p=42    --[[ Multiline
comment --]]
s = 1
```

Basic Types and Values

- Dynamical types – no type definitions
- Each value carries its type
- `type()` returns a string representation of a value’s type

```
a = true
type(a)           -- boolean
type("42"+0)     -- number
type("Simon ".1) -- string
type(type)       -- function
type(nil)        -- nil
type([[<html><body>pretty long string</body>
</html>
]])             -- string
a = 42
type(a)        -- number
```

Functions for Code

- ✓ First class citizens

```
function prettyprint(title, name, age)
  return title.." ".name.." ,born in " (2014-age)
end

a = prettyprint
a("Dr.", "Simon", 42)

prettyprint = function(title, name, age)
  return name.." ", "..title
end
```

Introducing Structure



- only one complex data type
- indexing via arbitrary values *except nil* (↪ Runtime Error)
- arbitrary large and dynamically growing/shrinking

```
a = {} -- create empty table
k = 42
a[k] = 3.14159 -- entry 3.14159 at key 42
a["k"] = k -- entry 42 at key "k"
a[k] = nil -- deleted entry at key 42
print(a.k) -- syntactic sugar for a["k"]
```

Table Lifecycle



- created from scratch
- modification is persistent
- assignment with reference- semantics
- garbage collection

```
a = {} -- create empty table
a.k = 42
b = a -- b refers to same as a
b["k"] = "k" -- entry "k" at key "k"
print(a.k) -- yields "k"
a = nil
print(b.k) -- still "k"
b = nil
print(b.k) -- nil now
```

Table Behaviour



Metatables


- are *ordinary tables*, used as collections of special functions
- Naming conventions for special functions
- Connect to a table via `setmetatable`, retrieve via `getmetatable`
- Changes behaviour of tables

```
meta = {} -- create as plain empty table
function meta.__tostring(person)
  return person.prefix .. " " .. person.name
end
a = { prefix="Dr.", name="Simon" } -- create Axel
setmetatable(a, meta) -- install metatable for a
print(a) -- print "Dr. Simon"
```

- Overload operators like `__add`, `__mul`, `__sub`, `__div`, `__pow`, `__concat`, `__unm`
- Overload comparators like `__eq`, `__lt`, `__le`

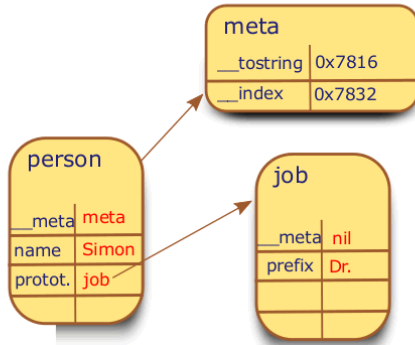
Delegation



-  reserved key `__index` determines *handling* of failed name lookups
- convention for signature: receiver table and key as parameters
- if dispatching to another table ↪ *Delegation*

```
meta = {}
function meta.__tostring(person)
  return person.prefix .. " " .. person.name
end
function meta.__index(table, key)
  return table.prototype[key]
end
job = { prefix="Dr." }
person = { name="Simon", prototype=job } -- create Axel
setmetatable(person, meta) -- install metatable
print(person) -- print "Dr. Simon"
```

Delegation



```

function meta.__tostring(person) -- 0x7816
  return person.prefix .. " " .. person.name
end
function meta.__index(table, key) -- 0x7832
  return table.prototype[key]
end
  
```

Delegation



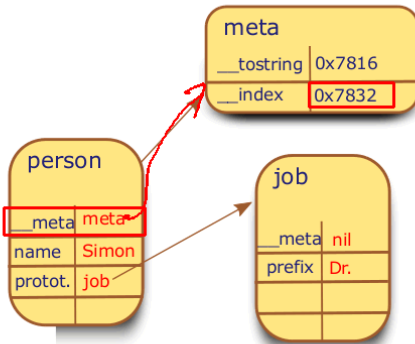
- ⚠ reserved key `__index` determines *handling* of failed name lookups
- convention for signature: receiver table and key as parameters
- if dispatching to another table \rightsquigarrow *Delegation*

```

meta = {}
function meta.__tostring(person)
  return person.prefix .. " " .. person.name
end
function meta.__index(table, key)
  return table.prototype[key]
end
job = { prefix="Dr." }
person = { name="Simon", prototype=job } -- create Axel
setmetatable(person, meta) -- install metatable
print(person) -- print "Dr. Simon"
  
```

setmetatable(job, meta)

Delegation



```

function meta.__tostring(person) -- 0x7816
  return person.prefix .. " " .. person.name
end
function meta.__index(table, key) -- 0x7832
  return table.prototype[key]
end
  
```

Delegation 2

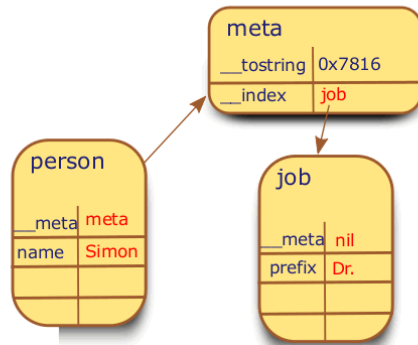


\rightsquigarrow Conveniently, `__index` does not need to be a function

```

meta = {}
function meta.__tostring(person)
  return person.prefix .. " " .. person.name
end
job = { prefix="Dr." }
meta.__index = job -- delegate to job
person = { name="Simon" } -- create Axel
setmetatable(person, meta) -- install metatable
print(person) -- print "Dr. Simon"
  
```

Delegation 2



```
function meta.__tostring(person) -- 0x7816
  return person.prefix .. " " .. person.name
end
```

Delegation 3



- `__newindex` handles unresolved updates
- frequently used to implement protection of objects

```
meta = {}
function meta.__newindex(table,key,val)
  if (key == "title" and table.name=="Guttenberg") then
    error("No title for You, sir!")
  else
    table.data[key]=val
  end
end

function meta.__tostring(table)
  return (table.title or "") .. table.name
end

person={ data={} } -- create person's data
meta.__index = person.data
setmetatable(person,meta)
person.name = "Guttenberg" -- name KT
person.title = "Dr." -- try to give him Dr.
```

Object Oriented Programming



⚠ so far no concept for multiple objects

```
Account = { balance=0 }
function Account.withdraw (val)
  Account.balance=Account.balance-val
end
function Account.__tostring()
  return "Balance is ". Account.balance
end
setmetatable(Account,Account)
Account.withdraw(10)
print(Account)
```

Introducing Identity

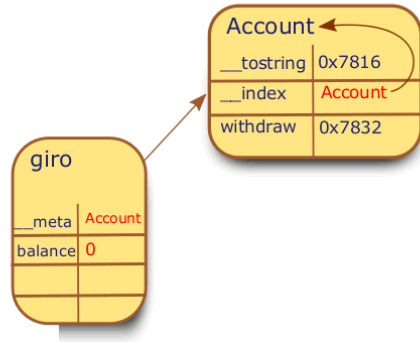


- Concept of an object's *own identity* via parameter
- Programming aware of multiple instances
- Share code between instances

```
Account = { balance=0 }
function Account.withdraw (acc, val)
  acc.balance=acc.balance-val
end
function Account.tostring(acc)
  return "Balance is "..acc.balance
end
Account.__index=Account -- share Account's functions

giro = { balance = 0 }
setmetatable(giro,Account) -- delegate from giro to Account
Account.withdraw(giro,10)
giro.withdraw(giro,10) -- withdraw independently
giro:withdraw(10)
print(Account:tostring())
print(giro:tostring())
```

Introducing Identity



```
function Account.withdraw (acc, val)
  acc.balance=acc.balance-val
end
function Account.tostring(acc)
  return "Balance is "..acc.balance
end
```

Introducing "Classes"



- Particular objects *used* as classes
- *self* for accessing own object

```
Account = { }
function Account:withdraw (val)
  self.balance=self.balance-val
end
function Account:tostring()
  return "Balance is "..self.balance
end
function Account:new(template)
  template = template or {balance=0} -- initialize
  setmetatable(template,self) -- Account is metatable
  self.__index=self -- delegate to Account
  self.__tostring = Account.tostring
  return template
end
giro = Account:new({balance=0}) -- create instance
giro:withdraw(10)
print(giro)
```

Inheriting Functionality



- Differential description possible in child class style
- Easily creating particular singletons

```
LimitedAccount = Account:new({balance=0,limit=100})
function LimitedAccount:withdraw(val)
  if (self.balance+self.limit < val) then
    error("Limit exceeded")
  end
  Account.withdraw(self,val)
end
specialgiro = LimitedAccount:new(9)
specialgiro:withdraw(90)
print(giro)
print(specialgiro)
```

Multiple Inheritance



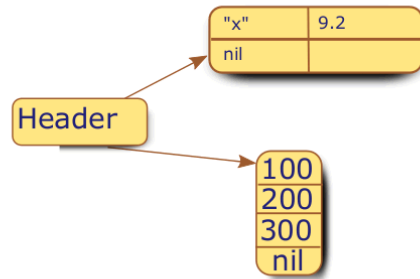
↪ Delegation leads to chain-like inheritance

```
function createClass (parent1,parent2)
  local c = {} -- new class
  setmetatable(c, {__index =
    function (t, k) -- search for each name
      local v = parent1[k] -- in both parents
      if v then return v end
      return parent2[k]
    end}
  )
  c.__index = c -- c is metatable of instances
  function c:new (o) -- constructor for this class
    o = o or {}
    setmetatable(o, c)
    return o
  end
  return c -- finally return c
end
```

```
typedef struct {  
    int type_id;  
    Value v;  
} TObject;
```

```
typedef union {  
    void *p;  
    int b;  
    lua_number n;  
    GCObject *gc;  
} Value;
```

- Datatypes are simple values (Type+union of different flavours)
- Tables at low-level fork into Hashmaps with pairs and an integer-indexed array part



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