

Objects Everywhere

Pure Object Orientation

A pure object-oriented language is one in which every value is an object.

If the language is based on classes, this means that the type of each value is a class.

Is Scala a pure object-oriented language?

At first glance, there seem to be some exceptions: primitive types, functions.

But, let's look closer:

Standard Classes

Conceptually, types such as `Int` or `Boolean` do not receive special treatment in Scala. They are like the other classes, defined in the package `scala`.

For reasons of efficiency, the Scala compiler represents the values of type `scala.Int` by 32-bit integers, and the values of type `scala.Boolean` by Java's `Booleans`, etc.

Pure Booleans

The Boolean type maps to the JVM's primitive type boolean.

But one *could* define it as a class from first principles:

```
package idealized.scala
abstract class Boolean extends AnyVal {
  def ifThenElse[T](t: => T, e: => T): T

  def && (x: => Boolean): Boolean = ifThenElse(x, false)
  def || (x: => Boolean): Boolean = ifThenElse(true, x)
  def unary_!: Boolean          = ifThenElse(false, true)

  def == (x: Boolean): Boolean  = ifThenElse(x, x.unary_!)
  def != (x: Boolean): Boolean  = ifThenElse(x.unary_!, x)
  ...
}
```

Boolean Constants

Here are constants `true` and `false` that go with `Boolean` in `idealized.scala`:

```
package idealized.scala

object true extends Boolean {
  def ifThenElse[T](t: => T, e: => T) = t
}

object false extends Boolean {
  def ifThenElse[T](t: => T, e: => T) = e
}
```

Exercise

Provide an implementation of the comparison operator `<` in class `idealized.scala.Boolean`.

Assume for this that `false < true`.

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The class Int

Here is a partial specification of the class `scala.Int`.

```
class Int {  
  def + (that: Double): Double  
  def + (that: Float): Float  
  def + (that: Long): Long  
  def + (that: Int): Int          // same for -, *, /, %  
  
  def << (cnt: Int): Int          // same for >>, >>> */  
  
  def & (that: Long): Long  
  def & (that: Int): Int          // same for |, ^ */  
}
```


The class Int (2)

```
def == (that: Double): Boolean
def == (that: Float): Boolean
def == (that: Long): Boolean // same for !=, <, >, <=, >=
...
}
```

Can it be represented as a class from first principles (i.e. not using primitive ints?)

Exercise

Provide an implementation of the abstract class `Nat` that represents non-negative integers.

```
abstract class Nat {  
  def isZero: Boolean  
  def predecessor: Nat  
  def successor: Nat  
  def + (that: Nat): Nat  
  def - (that: Nat): Nat  
}
```

Exercise (2)

Do not use standard numerical classes in this implementation.

Rather, implement a sub-object and a sub-class:

```
object Zero extends Nat  
class Succ(n: Nat) extends Nat
```

One for the number zero, the other for strictly positive numbers.

(this one is a bit more involved than previous quizzes).