ETH Zürich
Chair of Software Engineering

Einführung in die Programmierung
Introduction to Programming

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Exercise Session 10

Today

- Recursion
  - Recursion
    - Recursion
      - Recursion
        - Recursion
- Inheritance
- Genericity

The general notion of recursion

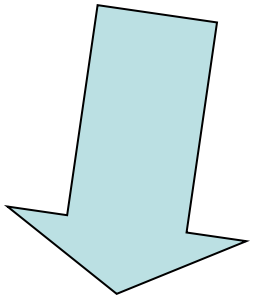
A definition for a concept is recursive
if it involves an instance of the concept itself

- The definition may use more than one "*instance of the concept itself*"
- *Recursion* is the use of a recursive definition

Thoughts

„To iterate is human, to recurse - divine!"

but … computers are built by humans 



Better use iterative approach if reasonable?

Iteration vs. recursion

- Every recursion could be rewritten as an iteration and vice versa.
- BUT, depending on how the problem is formulated, this can be difficult or might not give you a performance improvement.

Exercise: Printing numbers

Hands-On

- If we pass n = 4, how many numbers will be printed and in which order?

```
print_int (n: INTEGER)
    do
        print (n)
        if n > 1 then
            print_int (n - 1)
        end
    end
```

4321

```
print_int (n: INTEGER)
    do
        if n > 1 then
            print_int (n - 1)
        end
        print (n)
    end
```

1234

Exercise: Reverse string

- Print a given string in reverse order using a recursive function.

Exercise: Solution

```
class APPLICATION

create
    make

feature
    make
        local
            s: STRING
        do
            create s.make_from_string ("poldomangia")
            invert(s)
        end

    invert (s: STRING)
        require
            s /= Void
        do
            if not s.is_empty then
                invert (s.substring (2, s.count))
                print (s[1])
            end
        end
end
```

Exercise: Sequences

- Write a recursive and an iterative program to print the following:

  111,112,113,121,122,123,131,132,133,
  211,212,213,221,222,223,231,232,233,
  311,312,313,321,322,323,331,332,333.

- Note that the recursive solution can use loops too.

Exercise: Recursive solution

```
cells: ARRAY [INTEGER]

handle_cell (n: INTEGER)
    local
        i: INTEGER
    do
        from
            i := 1
        until
            i > 3
        loop
            cells [n] := i
            if (n < 3) then
                handle_cell (n+1)
            else
                print ("("+cells [1].out+","+cells [2].out+","+cells [3].out+")")
            end
            i := i + 1
        end
    end
```

Exercise: Iterative solution

```
from
    i := 1
until
    i > 3
loop
    from
        j := 1
    until
        j > 3
    loop
        from
            k := 1
        until
            k > 3
        loop
            print ("("+i.out+","+j.out+","+k.out+")")
            k := k + 1
        end
        j := j + 1
    end
    i := i + 1
end
```

Exercise: Magic Squares

- A magic square of size NxN is a NxN square such that:
  - Every cell contains a number between 1 and N^2.
  - The sums in every row and column is constant.
  - The numbers are all different.

4	3	8
9	5	1
2	7	6

Exercise: Magic Squares

- Finding a magic square 3x3 is related to finding the permutations of 1 to 9.
- There exist 72 magic 3x3 squares.

123456789
123456798
123456879
123456897
123456978
123456987
...
987654321

Exercise: Magic Squares

Hands-On

- Write a program that finds all the 3x3 magic squares.
- Hints
  - Reuse the previous recursive algorithm by applying it to permutations (enforce no repetitions).
  - Use two arrays of 9 elements, one for the current permutation and one to know if a number has already been used or not.

Exercise: Solution

- See code in IDE.

Going backwards pays off

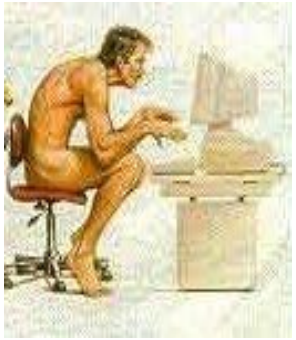
- Sometimes even by looking at a part of a potential solution we can say that it is wrong. In this case we can discard the whole set of potential solutions even before they have been built.
- This technique is called Backtracking.
- See code in IDE.

Data structures

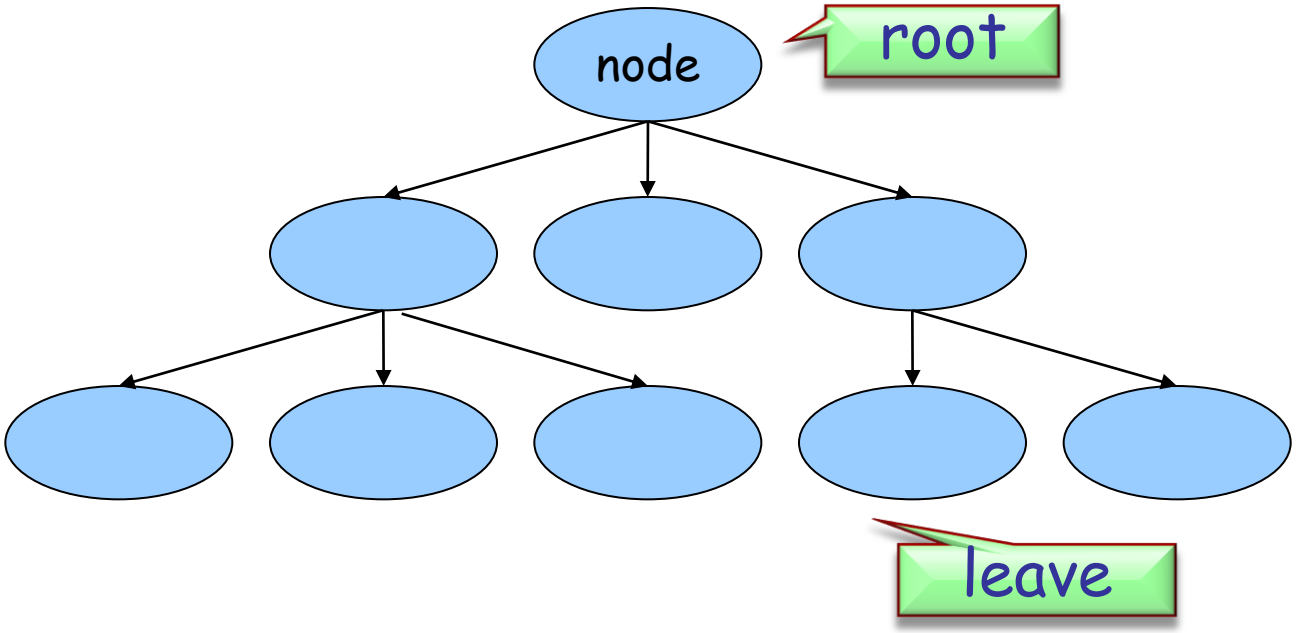
- You have seen several data structures
  - *ARRAY*, *LINKED_LIST*, *HASH_TABLE*, …
- We will now look at another data structure and see how recursion can be used for traversal.

Tree

Tree

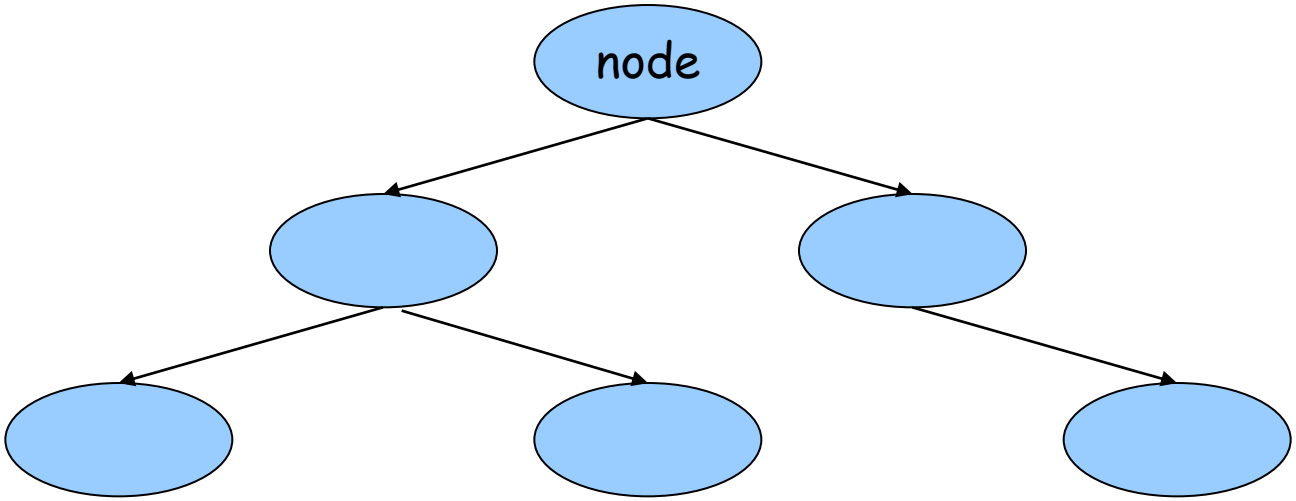


Tree: A more abstract way



- A non-empty tree has one root. An empty tree does not have a root.
- Every non-leaf node has links to its children. A leaf does not have children.
- There are no cycles.

Binary tree



- A binary tree is a tree.
- Each non-leaf node can have at most 2 children (possibly 0 or 1).

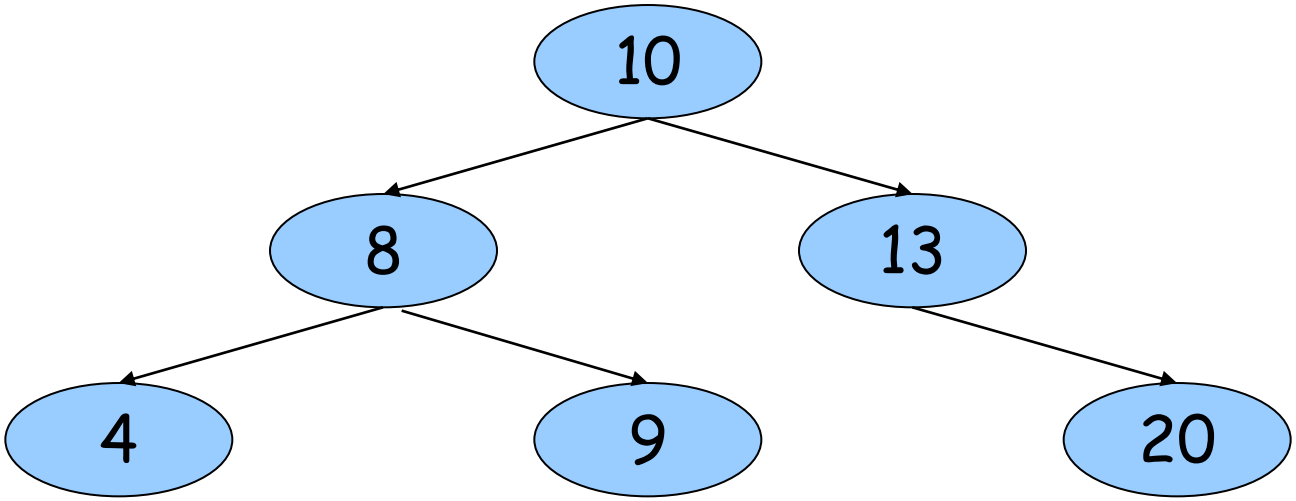
Exercise: Recursive traversal

- Implement class *NODE* with an *INTEGER* attribute.
- In *NODE* implement a recursive feature that traverses the tree and prints out the *INTEGER* value of each *NODE* object.
- Test your code with a class *APPLICATION* which builds a binary tree and calls the traversal feature.

Exercise: Solution

- See code in IDE.

Binary search tree



- A binary search tree is a binary tree where each node has a *COMPARABLE* value.
- Left sub-tree of a node contains only values less than the node's value.
- Right sub-tree of a node contains only values greater than or equal to the node's value.

Exercise: Adding nodes

Hands-On

- Implement command *put (n: INTEGER)* in class *NODE* which creates a new *NODE* object at the correct place in the binary search tree rooted by **Current**.
- Test your code with a class *APPLICATION* which builds a binary search tree using put and prints out the values using the traversal feature.
- Hint: You might need to adapt the traversal feature such that the values are printed out in order.

Exercise: Solution

- See code in IDE.

Exercise: Searching

- Implement feature *has (n: INTEGER): BOOLEAN* in class *NODE* which returns true if and only if *n* is in the tree rooted by **Current**.
- Test your code with a class *APPLICATION* which builds a binary search tree and calls *has*.

Exercise: Solution

- See code in IDE.

Inheritance

Principle:

Describe a new class as extension or specialization of an existing class

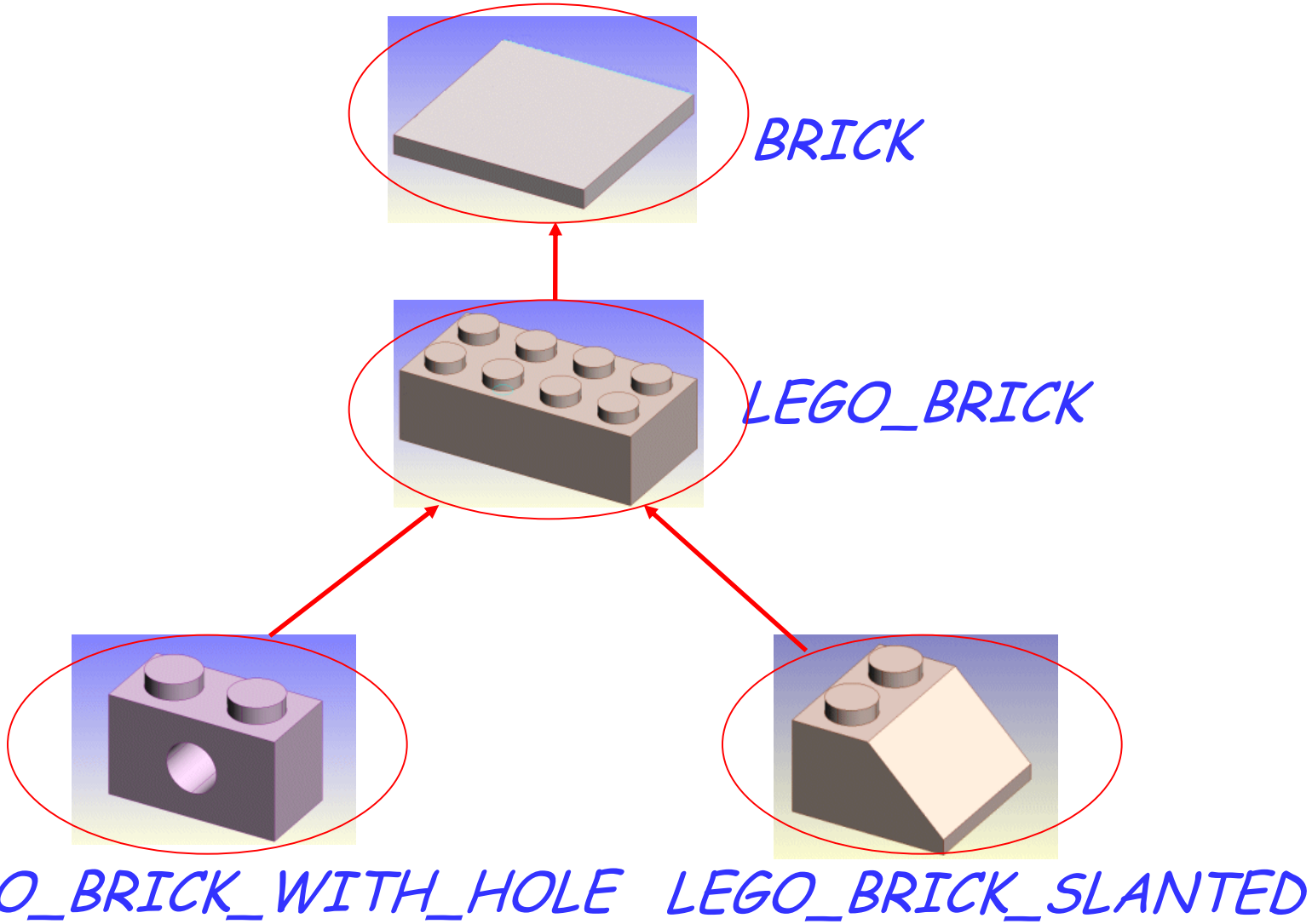
(or several with ***multiple*** inheritance)

If *B* inherits from *A* :

- As modules: all the services of *A* are available in *B* (possibly with a different implementation)
- As types: whenever an instance of *A* is required, an instance of *B* will be acceptable

("is-a" relationship)

Let's play Lego!

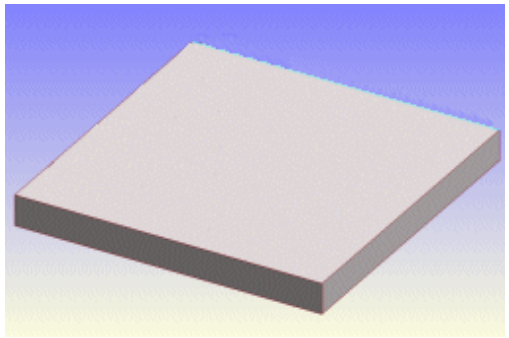


Class *BRICK*

```
deferred class
    BRICK

feature
    width: INTEGER
    depth: INTEGER
    height: INTEGER
    color: COLOR

    volume: INTEGER
        deferred
        end
end
```



Class *LEGO_BRICK*

Inherit all features of class *BRICK*.

New feature, calculate all nubs

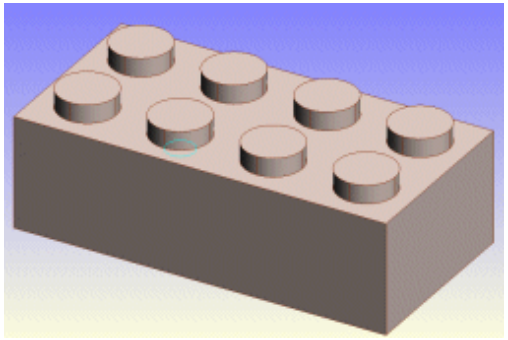
Implementation of *volume*.

```
class
    LEGO_BRICK

inherit
    BRICK

feature
    number_of_nubs: INTEGER
        do
            Result := ...
        end

    volume: INTEGER
        do
            Result := ...
        end
end
```



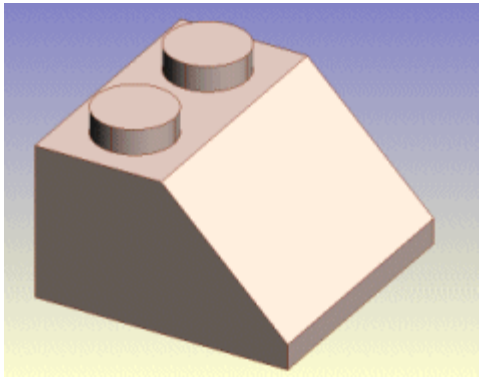
Class *LEGO_BRICK_SLANTED*

```
class
    LEGO_BRICK_SLANTED

inherit
    LEGO_BRICK
        redefine
            volume
        end

feature
    volume: INTEGER
        do
            Result := ...
        end
end
```

The feature *volume* is going to be redefined (=changed). The feature *volume* comes from *LEGO_BRICK*



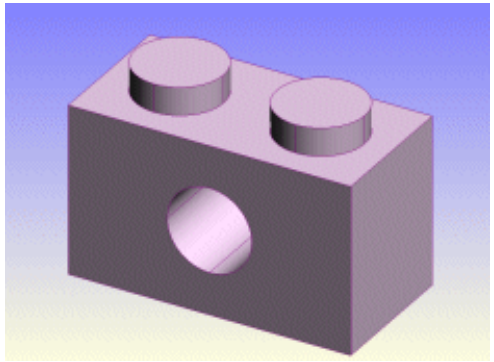
Class *LEGO_BRICK_WITH_HOLE*

```
class
    LEGO_BRICK_WITH_HOLE

inherit
    LEGO_BRICK
        redefine
            volume
        end

feature
    volume: INTEGER
        do
            Result := ...
        end
end
```

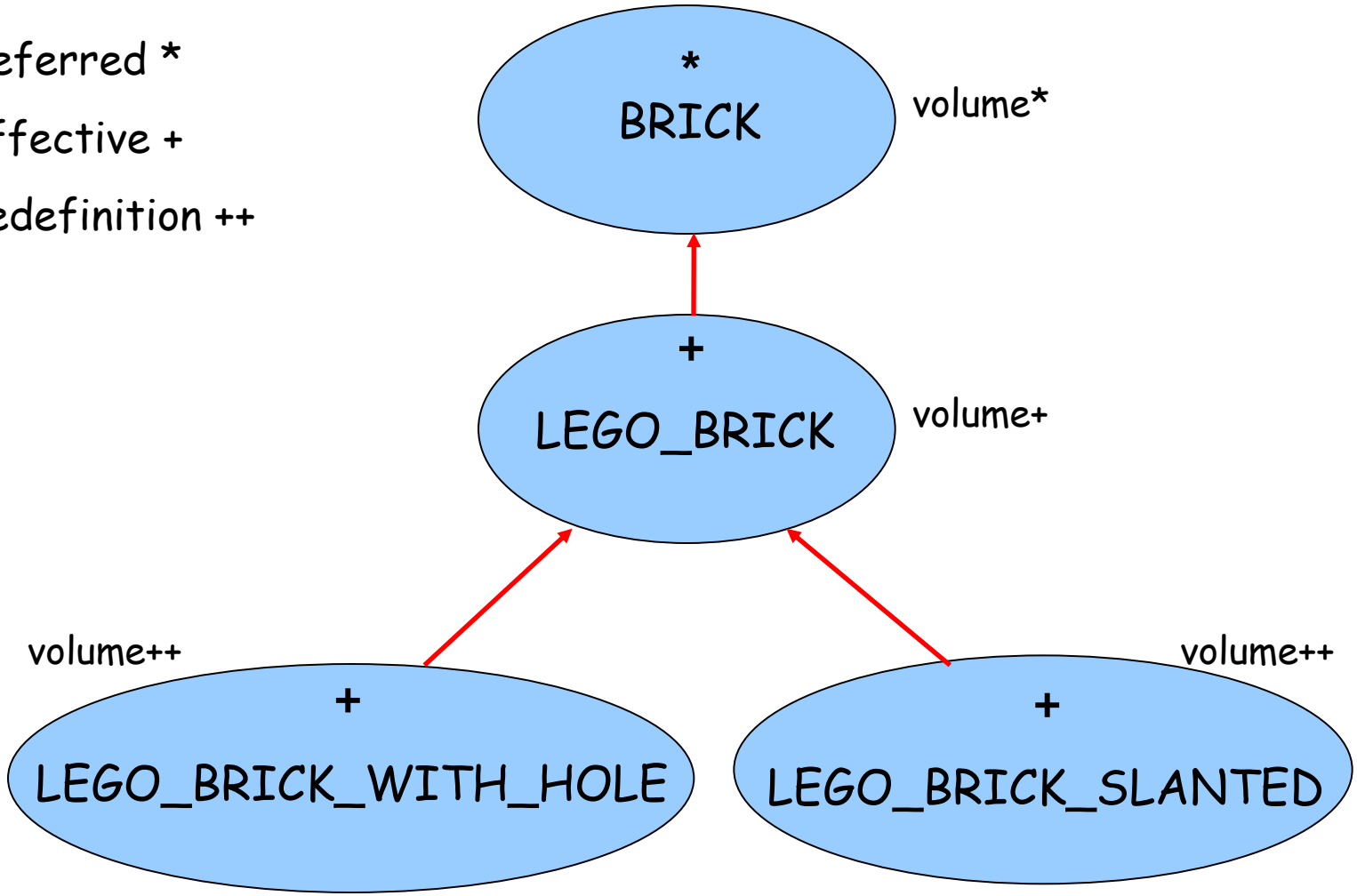
The feature *volume* is going to be redefined (=changed). The feature *volume* comes from *LEGO_BRICK*



Inheritance Notation

Notation:

- Deferred *
- Effective +
- Redefinition ++



Deferred

- Deferred
  - Deferred classes can have deferred features.
  - A class with at least one deferred feature must be declared as deferred.
  - A deferred feature does not have an implementation yet.
  - Deferred classes cannot be instantiated and hence cannot contain a create clause.

Effective

- Effective
  - Effective classes do not have deferred features (the "standard case").
  - Effective routines have an implementation of their feature body.

Precursor

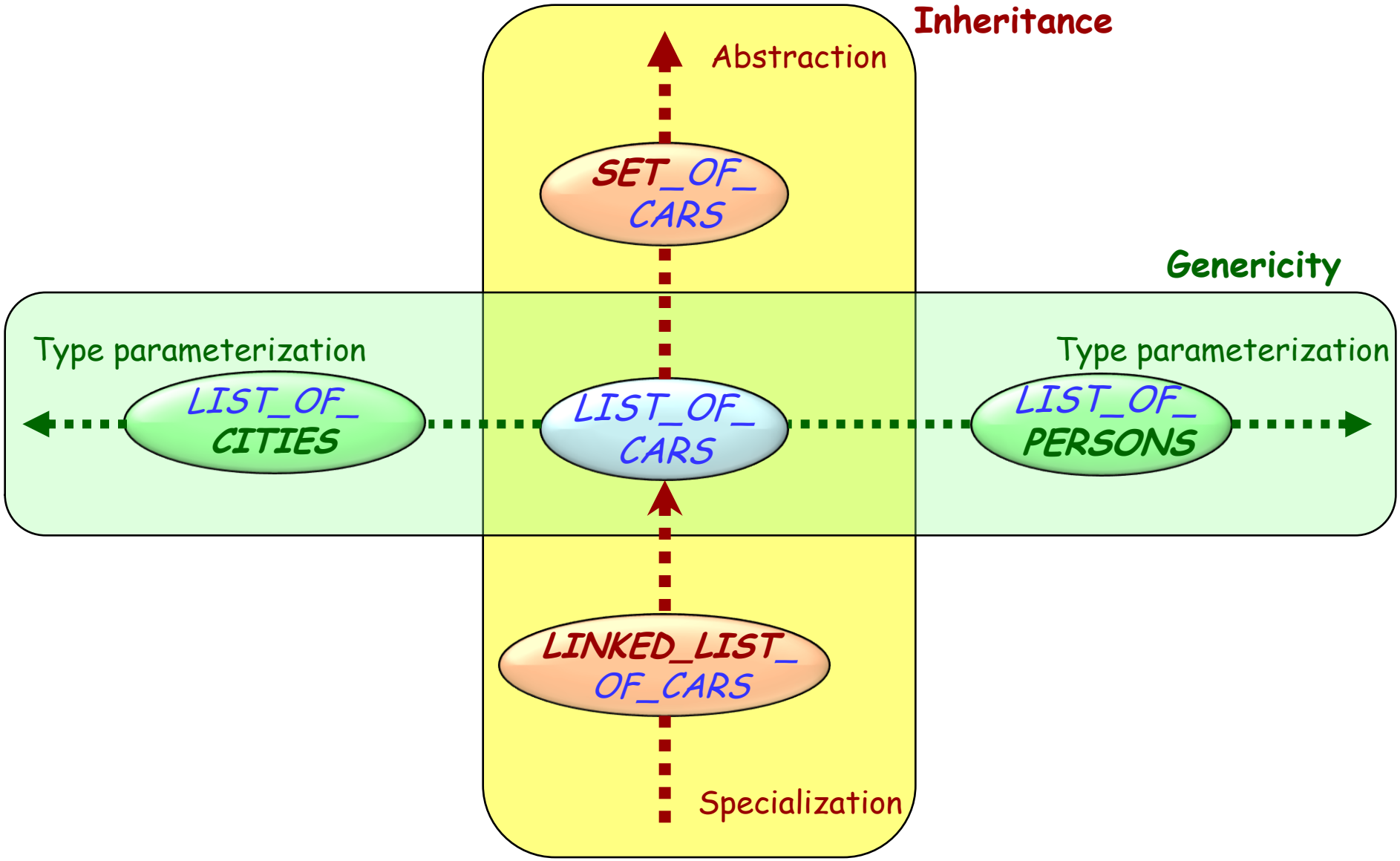
- If a feature was redefined, but you still wish to call the old one, use the **Precursor** keyword.

```
volume: INTEGER
  do
     Result := Precursor - ...
  end
```

Genericity

- Genericity lets you parameterize a class. The parameters are types. A single class text may be reused for many different types.

Genericity


Inheritance
Abstraction
SET_OF_CARS
Genericity
Type parameterization
LIST_OF_CITIES
LIST_OF_CARS
Type parameterization
LIST_OF_PERSONS
LINKED_LIST_OF_CARS
Specialization

A generic list

Formal generic parameter

```
class LIST [G] feature
        extend (x : G) ...
        last : G ...
end
```

To use the class: obtain a generic derivation, e.g.

Actual generic parameter

```
cities : LIST [CITY]
```

A generic list with constraints

```
class
    STORAGE [G] -> RESOURCE

inherit
    LIST [G]

feature
    consume_all
        do
            from start until after
            loop
                item.consume
                forth
            end
        end
end
```

constrained generic parameter

The feature *item* is of type G. We cannot assume *consume*.

assume this.

Type-safe containers

- Using genericity you can provide an implementation of type safe containers. This helps avoiding object-tests.

```
x: ANIMAL
animal_list: LINKED_LIST [ANIMAL]
a_rock: MINERAL

animal_list.put (a_rock) -- Does this rock?
```