

8. Subclasses and submethods

In the previous chapters, we have seen an example of a how to represent the concept of a bank account by means of a class. Most banks have different kinds of accounts like saving accounts, credit accounts, retirement accounts, and business accounts. Such accounts have different properties, but also a number of properties in common. A credit account may e.g. have a property *maximum credit* whereas all accounts have a property *balance*.

In this section, we will show how to represent different kinds of bank accounts by means of classes organised in a hierarchy. For this purpose, we introduce in section a language mechanism called *subclass*. In section , we will introduce a similar mechanism for methods called *submethod*.