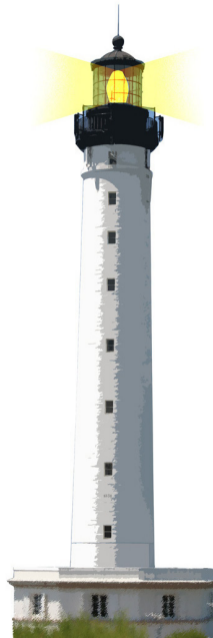


A double dispatch starter

S. Ducasse



<http://www.pharo.org>

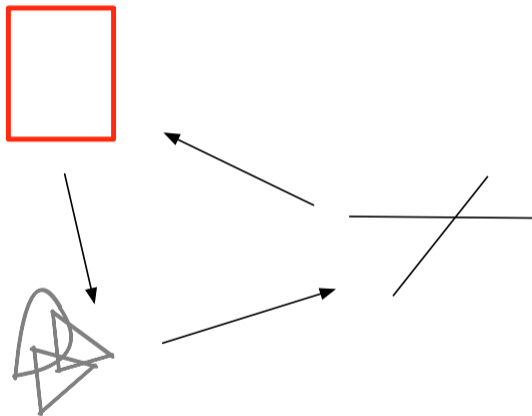


Goals

- In the quest of dispatch
- No conditionals!

```
>>> (Stone new vs: Paper new)  
#paper
```

Goals



Stone Paper Scissors: one Test

```
StonePaperScissorsTest >> testPaperIsWinning  
self assert: (Stone new vs: Paper new) equals: #paper
```

The inverse too

```
StonePaperScissorsTest >> testPaperIsWinning  
self assert: (Stone new vs: Paper new) equals: #paper
```

```
StonePaperScissorsTest >> testPaperIsWinning  
self assert: (Paper new vs: Stone new) equals: #paper
```

Let us start

```
StonePaperScissorsTest >> testPaperIsWinning  
  self assert: (Stone new vs: Paper new) equals: #paper
```

```
Stone >> vs: anotherTool  
  ^ ...
```

Hints

- The solution does not contain an explicit condition
- Remember sending a message is making a choice: selecting the right method
- When we execute the method `vs`: we know the receiver
- What if we introduce another method to make another choice?



Paper playAgainstStone:

```
Stone >> vs: anotherTool  
  ^ anotherTool playAgainstStone
```

```
Paper >> playAgainstStone  
  ^ ...
```


Paper playAgainstStone

```
Stone >> vs: anotherTool  
  ^ anotherTool playAgainstStone
```

```
Paper >> playAgainstStone  
>> ^ #paper
```



Paper playAgainstStone

Works for

```
>>> Stone new vs: Paper new  
#paper
```

But not for

```
>>> Stone new vs: Scissor new  
#stone
```

- How to fix this?
- Easy!



Other playAgainstStone

```
Scissors >> playAgainstStone  
^ #stone
```

```
Stone >> playAgainstStone  
^ #draw
```

In total

```
Stone >> vs: anotherTool  
  ^ anotherTool playAgainstStone
```

```
Paper >> playAgainstStone  
>> ^ #paper
```

```
Scissors >> playAgainstStone  
  ^ #stone
```

```
Stone >> playAgainstStone  
  ^ #draw
```



Stepping back

- We know that a method is executed on a class (here Stone)
- We SEND another message to the argument to select another method (here playAgainstStone)
- Two messages to be able to select a method based on its receiver AND argument



Scissors now

```
Scissors >> vs: anotherTool  
  ^ anotherTool playAgainstScissors
```

```
Scissors >> playAgainstScissors  
  ^ #draw
```

```
Paper >> playAgainstScissors  
  ^ #scissors
```

```
Stone >> playAgainstScissors  
  ^ #stone
```

Paper now

```
Paper >> vs: anotherTool  
^ anotherTool playAgainstPaper
```

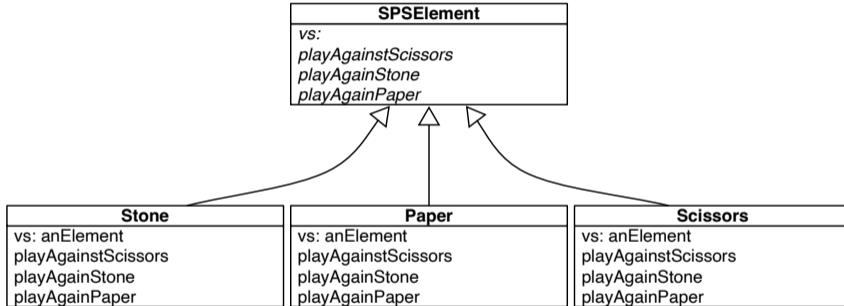
```
Scissors >> playAgainstPaper  
^ #scissors
```

```
Paper >> playAgainstPaper  
^ #draw
```

```
Stone >> playAgainstPaper  
^ #paper
```



Solution Overview



Remark

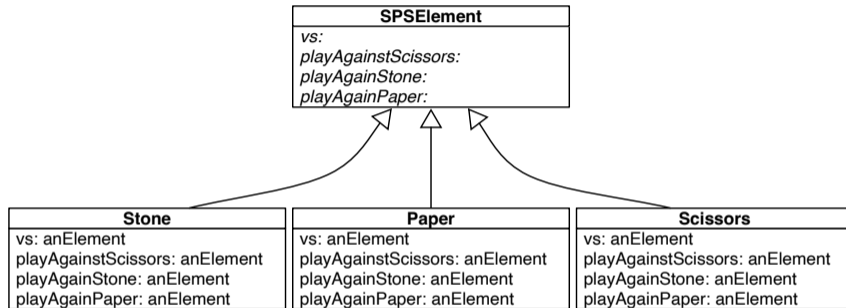
- In this toy example we do not need to pass the argument during the double dispatch
- But in general this is important as we want to do something with the first receiver (as in Visitor DP)

```
Scissors >> playAgainstPaper  
^ #scissors
```

will just be

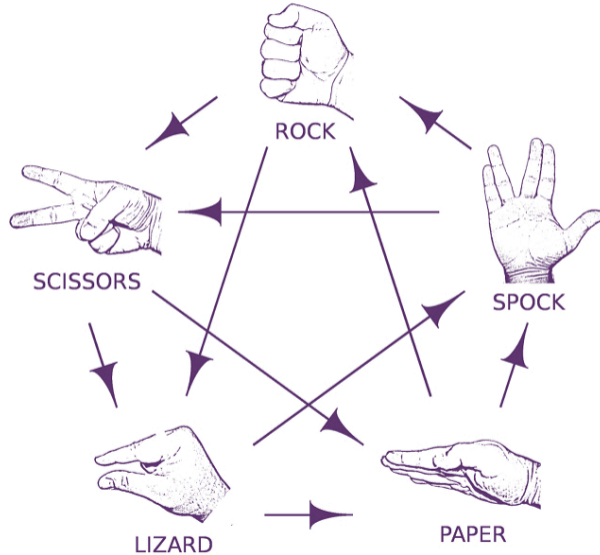
```
Scissors >> playAgainstPaper: aScissors  
^ #scissors
```

Remark



Paper >> vs: anotherTool
^ anotherTool playAgainstPaper: self

Extending it...



Conclusion

- Powerful
- Modular
- Just sending an extra message to an argument and using late binding



A course by

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