Aalto University
School of Science

Program design and UML

CS-C2120, Programming studio 2
CS-C2105, Programming studio A

20.1.2021

UML, Unified modeling language

- Graphical description method for software design
- Allows to abstract details away and focus on key concepts, components, their relations and processes.
- Supports structural, behavioral and architectural modeling.

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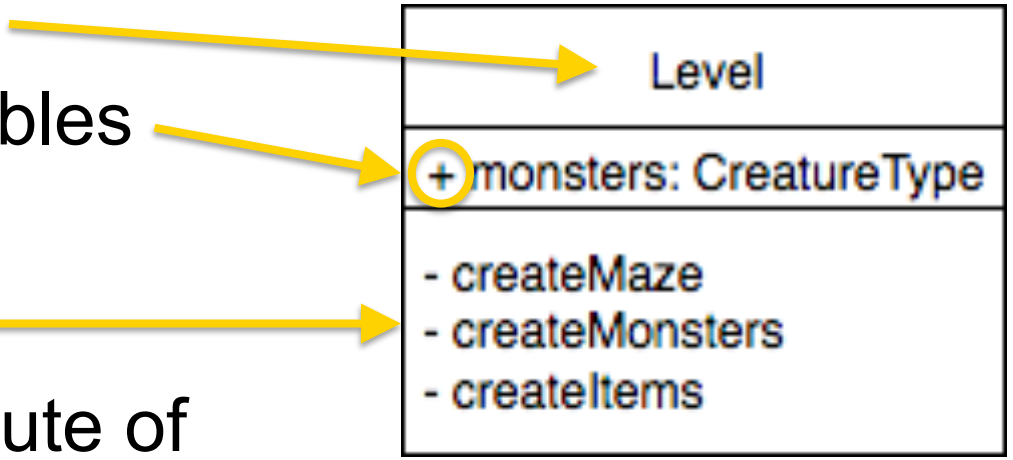
We focus on this only

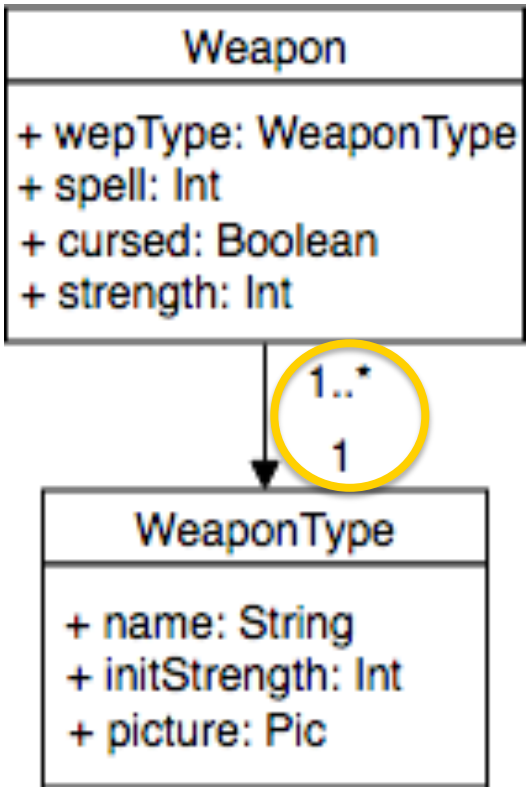
UML Class diagram

- Presents a class
  - Class name
  - Instance variables
    - Visibility
  - Methods
  - Possible attribute of class type (trait, abstract class)



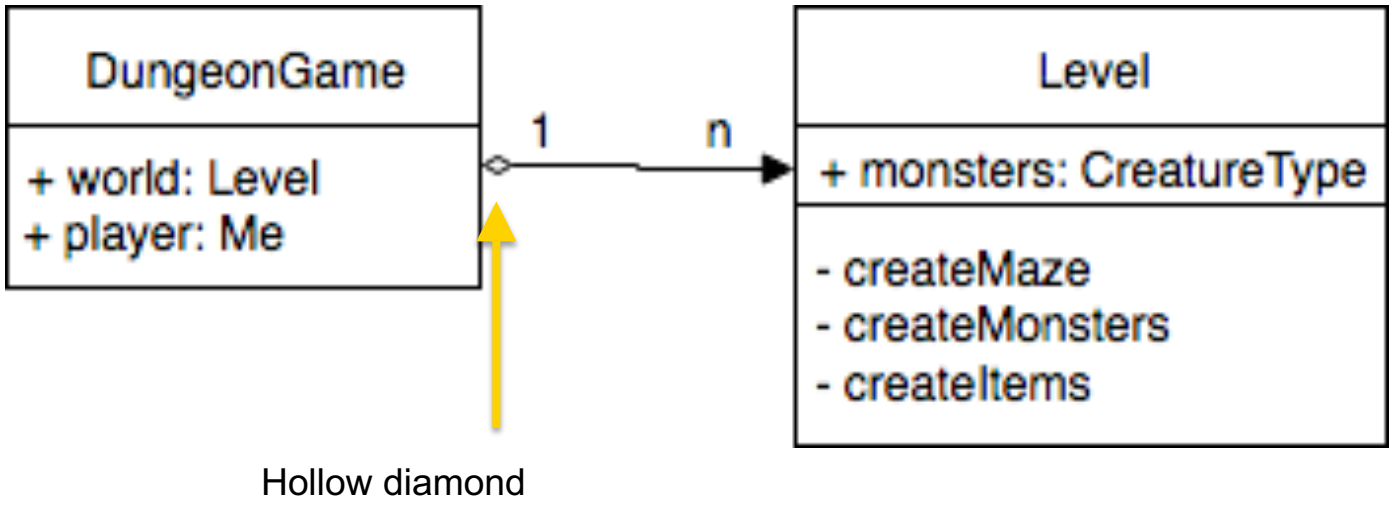
Relations: Association

- Association
  - Each Weapon is associated with one WeaponType
  - WeaponType can be associated with many Weapons



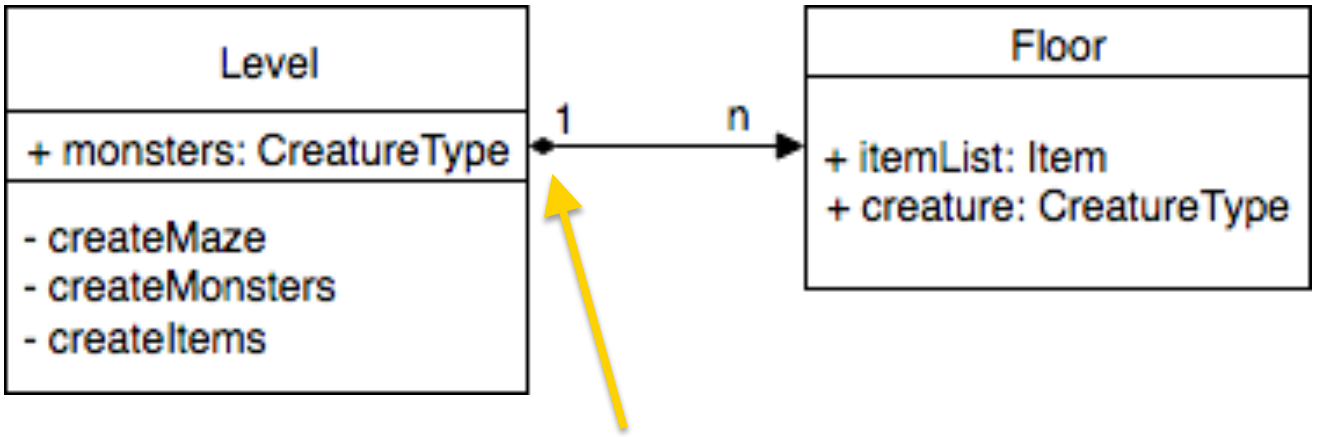
Relations: Aggregation

- DungeonGame has many Levels, which can exist independently



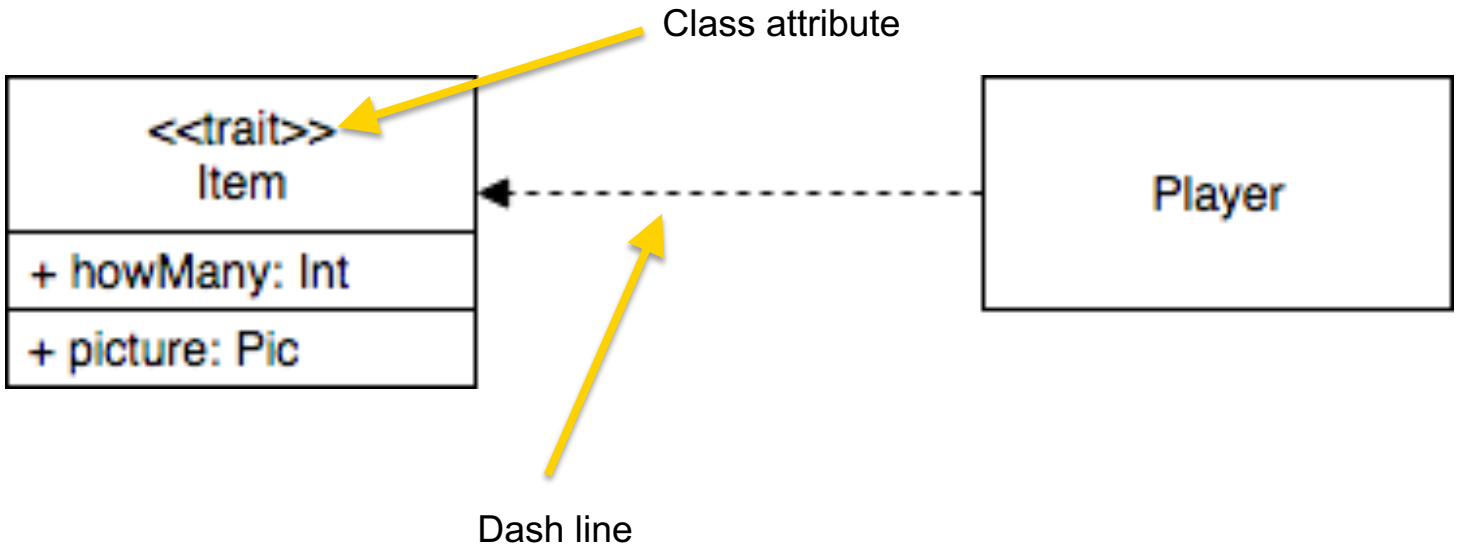
Relations: Composition

- Levels consist of Floor locations which cease to exist if Level is destroyed



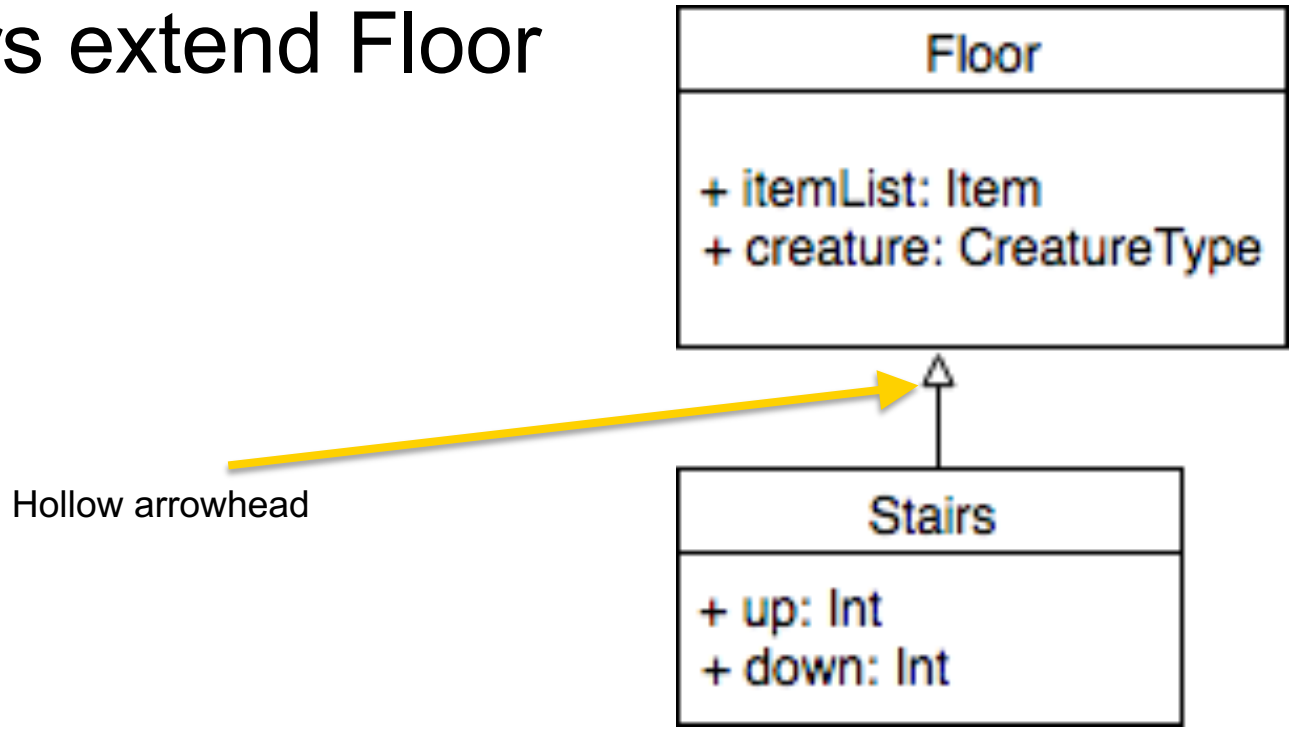
Relations: Dependency

- Player's functions depend on what kind of Items there are in the game.



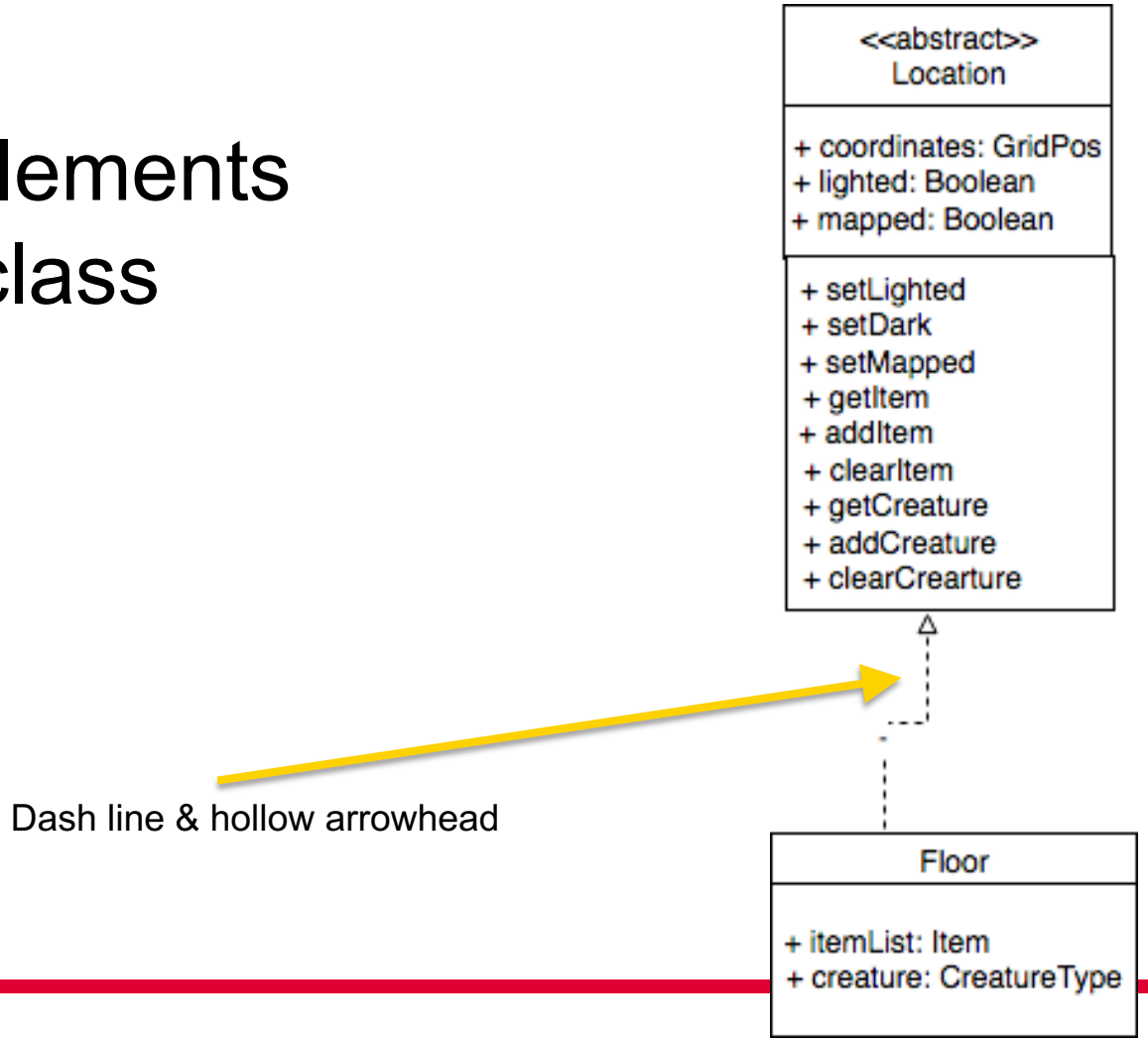
Relations: Inheritance

- Stairs extend Floor

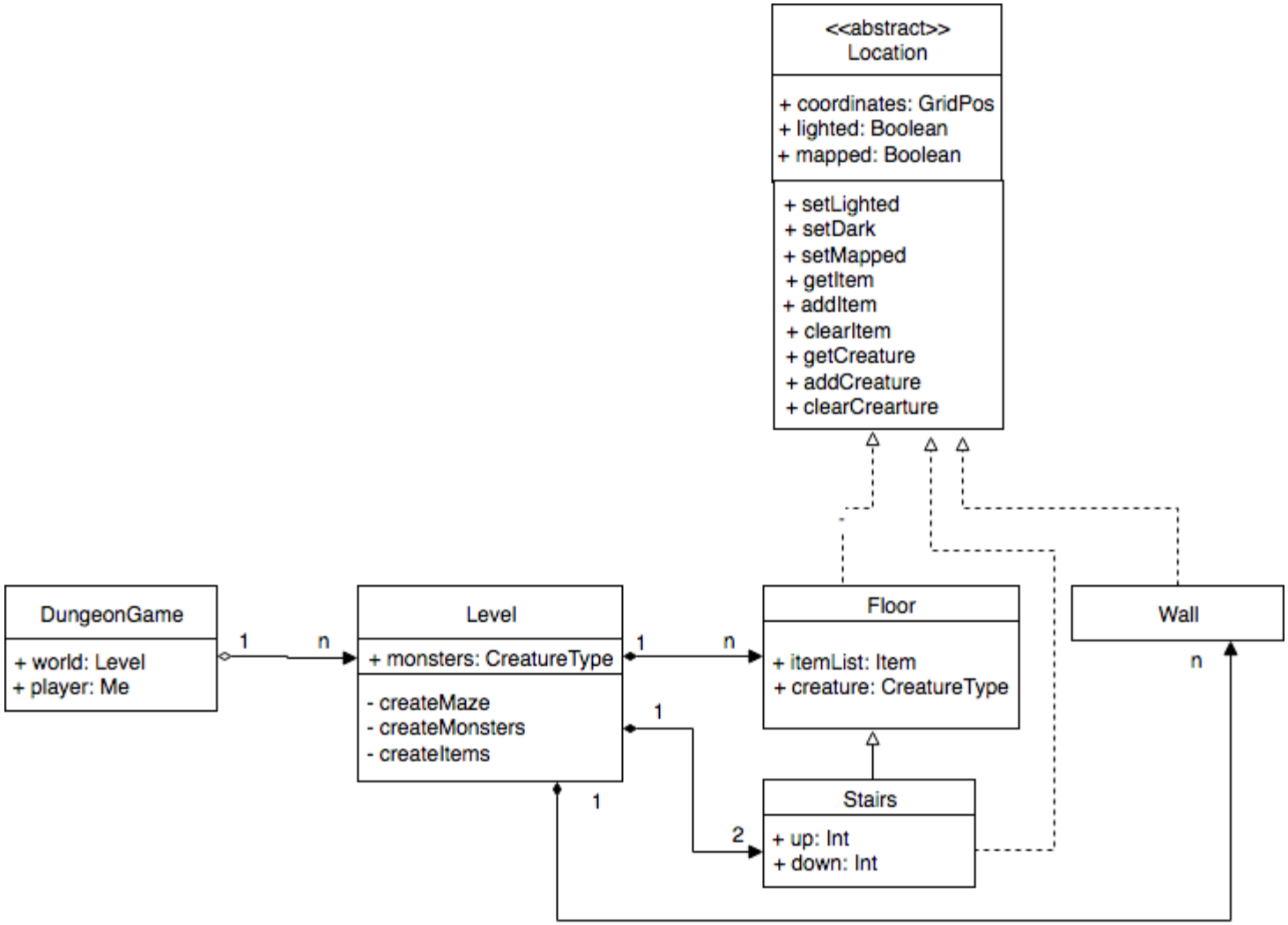


Relations: Implements

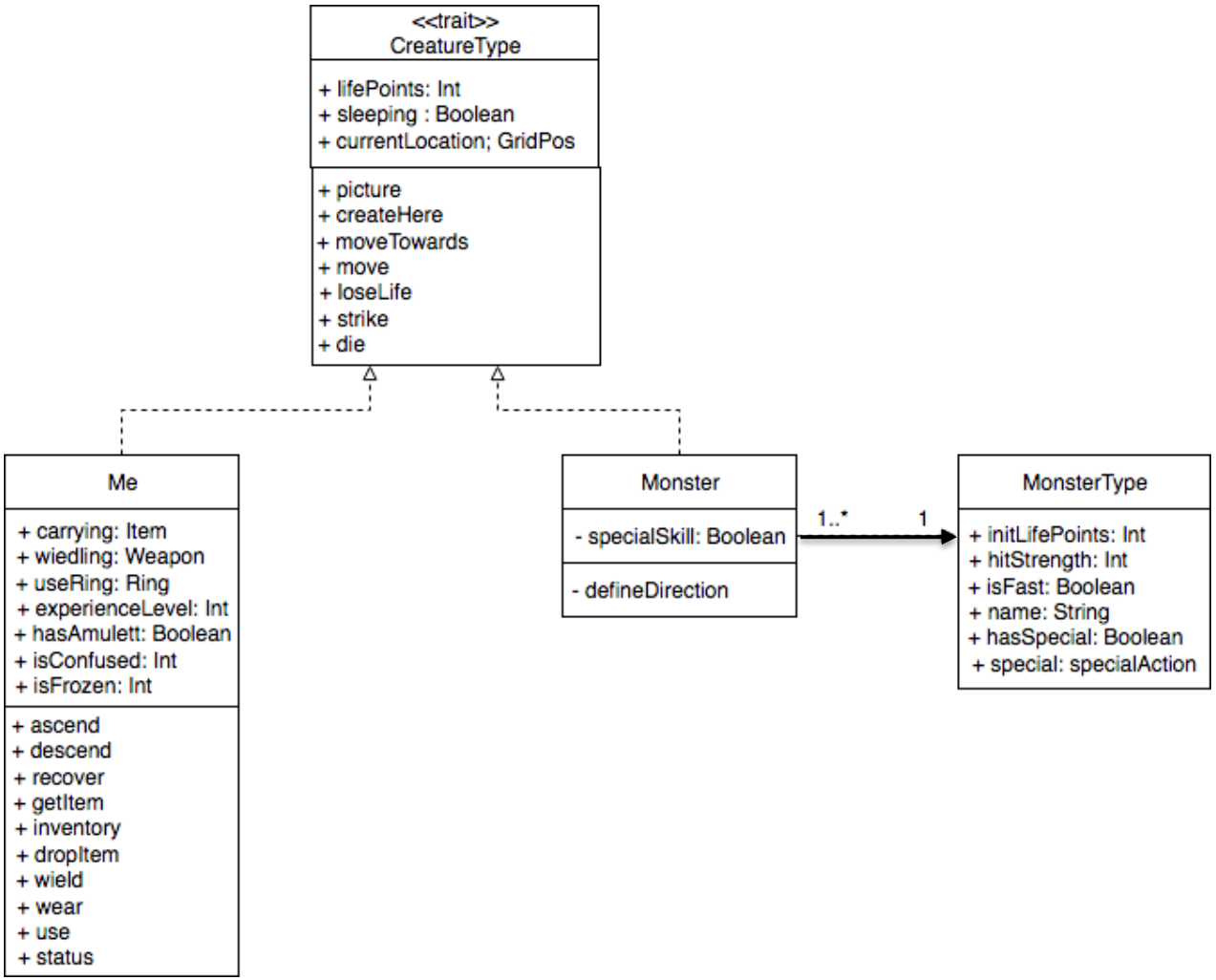
- Floor implements abstract class Location



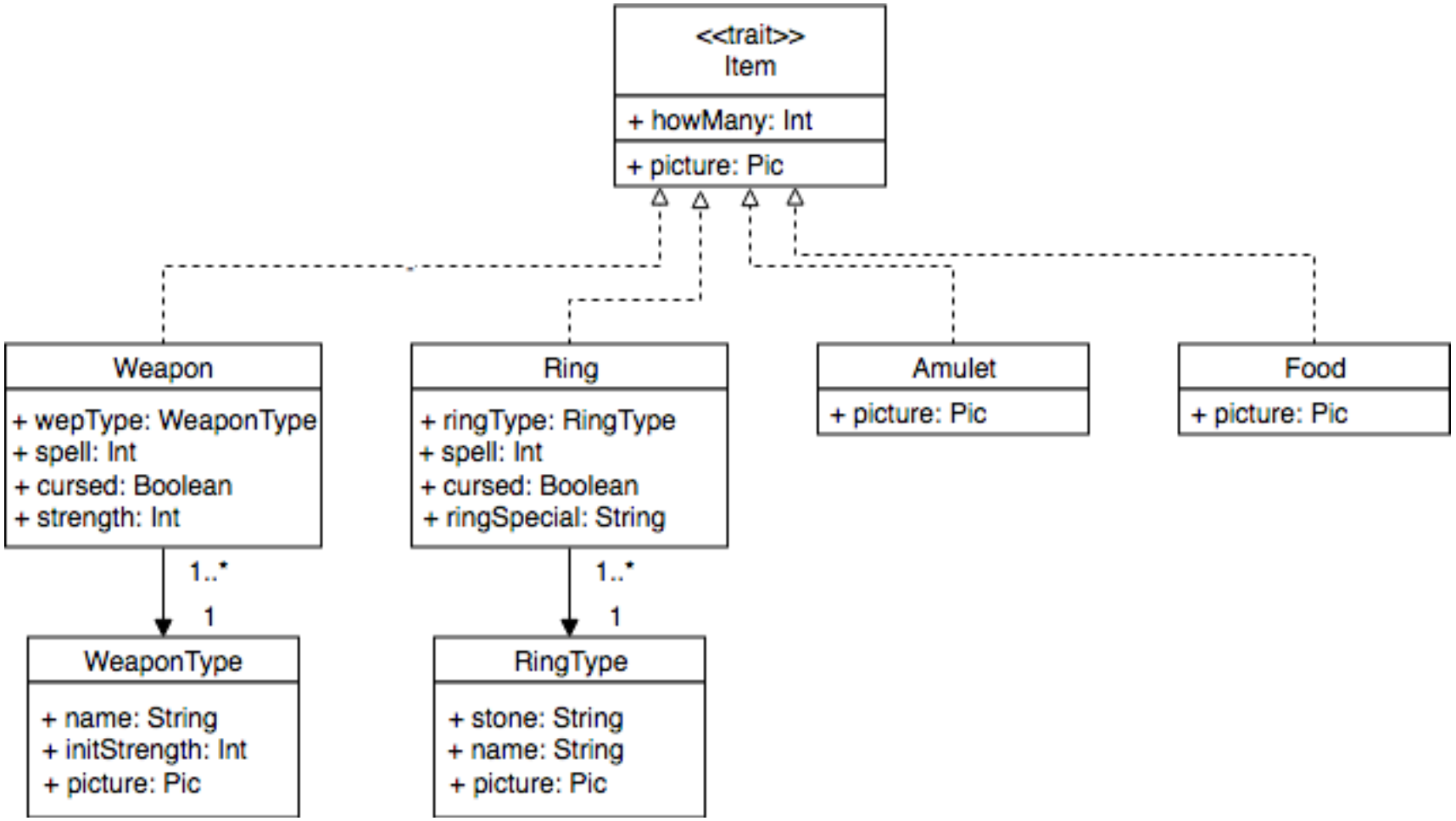
Example: Dungeon



Example: Creatures



Example: Items



Critical questions

- Are all relations of classes visible?
- Are variables and methods in appropriate classes, especially in the case of superclass/subclass hierarchies?
- Has visibility of variables and methods been considered?
- Can user stories be implemented in this structure?

Quality aspects

- Cohesion
  - Does a class implement many different things or does it focus on presenting and manipulating one concept/thing?
  - Might there be something, which could be better implemented in another class or a new dedicated class?

Quality aspects cont.

- Coupling
  - How complex is the interface between two classes which use methods / variables?
  - Does a class need information of the internals of another class?
  - Does its own implementation depend on such information?
    - For example, is it relevant to know the data structures used in another class?
    - => If yes, there is a risk of cumulative needs for changes

Friday demo & next week

- More discussion on the example design
- Other examples of design