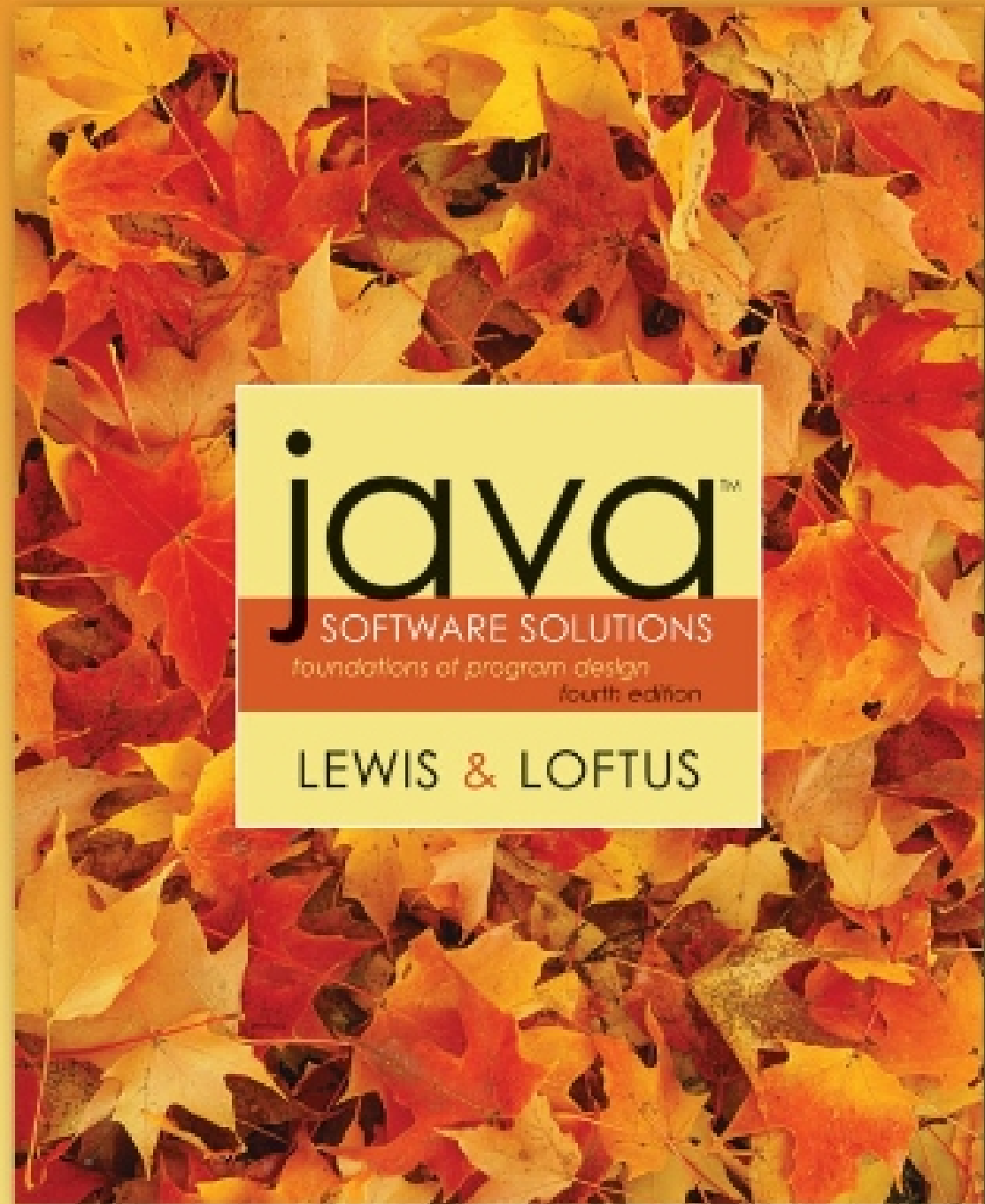


Chapter 6

Object-Oriented Design

Part 2



The this Reference

- The `this` reference allows an object to refer to itself
- ✂ → That is, the `this` reference, used inside a method, refers to the object through which the method is being executed
 - Remember: instance variables are unique to each object; but the methods are shared!!
- Suppose the `this` reference is used in a method called `tryMe`, which is invoked as follows:

```
obj1.tryMe();
```

```
obj2.tryMe();
```

- In the first invocation, the `this` reference refers to `obj1`; in the second it refers to `obj2`

The this reference

- The **this** reference can be used to distinguish the instance variables of a class from corresponding method parameters with the same names
- The constructor of the Account class (from Chapter 4) could have been written as follows:

```
public Account (String name, long acctNumber,
               double balance)
{
    this.name = name;
    this.acctNumber = acctNumber;
    this.balance = balance;
}
```

Here `this.name` refers to the instance variable for 'this' object... (don't need different formal parameter names)