



# Inheritance and Abstract Classes

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# Java Lists in Scala

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A list is an ordered collection / sequence

precise control over where an element is inserted

access elements by position

search for elements in the list

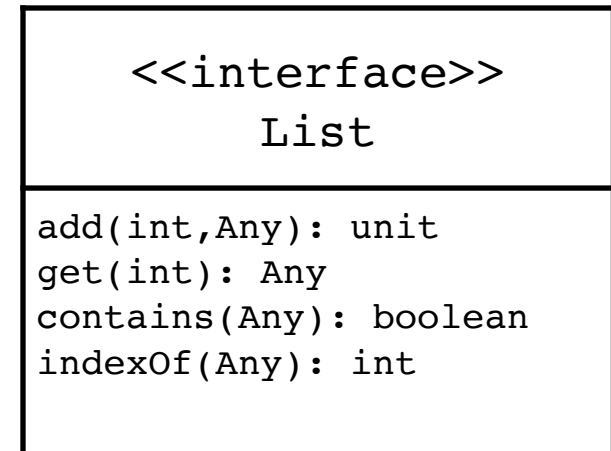
Should this be specified in a class,  
or an interface?

**Do it!**

## Scala

```
trait List {  
  def add(index: Int, element: Any)  
  def get(index: Int): Any  
  def contains(o: Any): Boolean  
  def indexOf(o: Any): Int  
  ...  
}
```

## UML



This is the specification of the interface of a list object

how do we create lists?  
we need classes(factories)!

# Creating Lists

Different implementation strategies

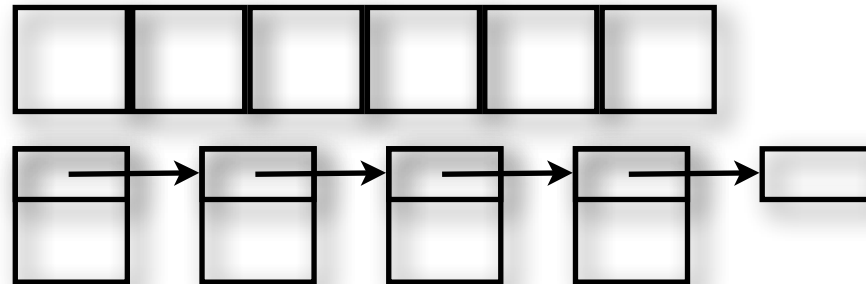
an array list

a linked list

a double-linked list

a copy-on-write array list

etc.... (10 implementations in the JDK)



```

class ArrayList(capacity: Int)
    extends List {
    private var size: Int = 0
    private var data: Array[Any] =
        new Array[Any](capacity)

    def this() = {
        this(10)
    }

    def get(index: Int): Any = {
        // check index in range
        data(index)
    }

    def add(index: Int, element: Any){
        // resize if needed
        // move elements to the right
        data(index) = element;
        size += 1;
    }
    ...
}

```

```

class LinkedList extends List {
    private var first: Option[Entry] = None
    private var last: Option[Entry] = None
    private var size = 0

    def get(index: Int): Any = getEntry(index).data

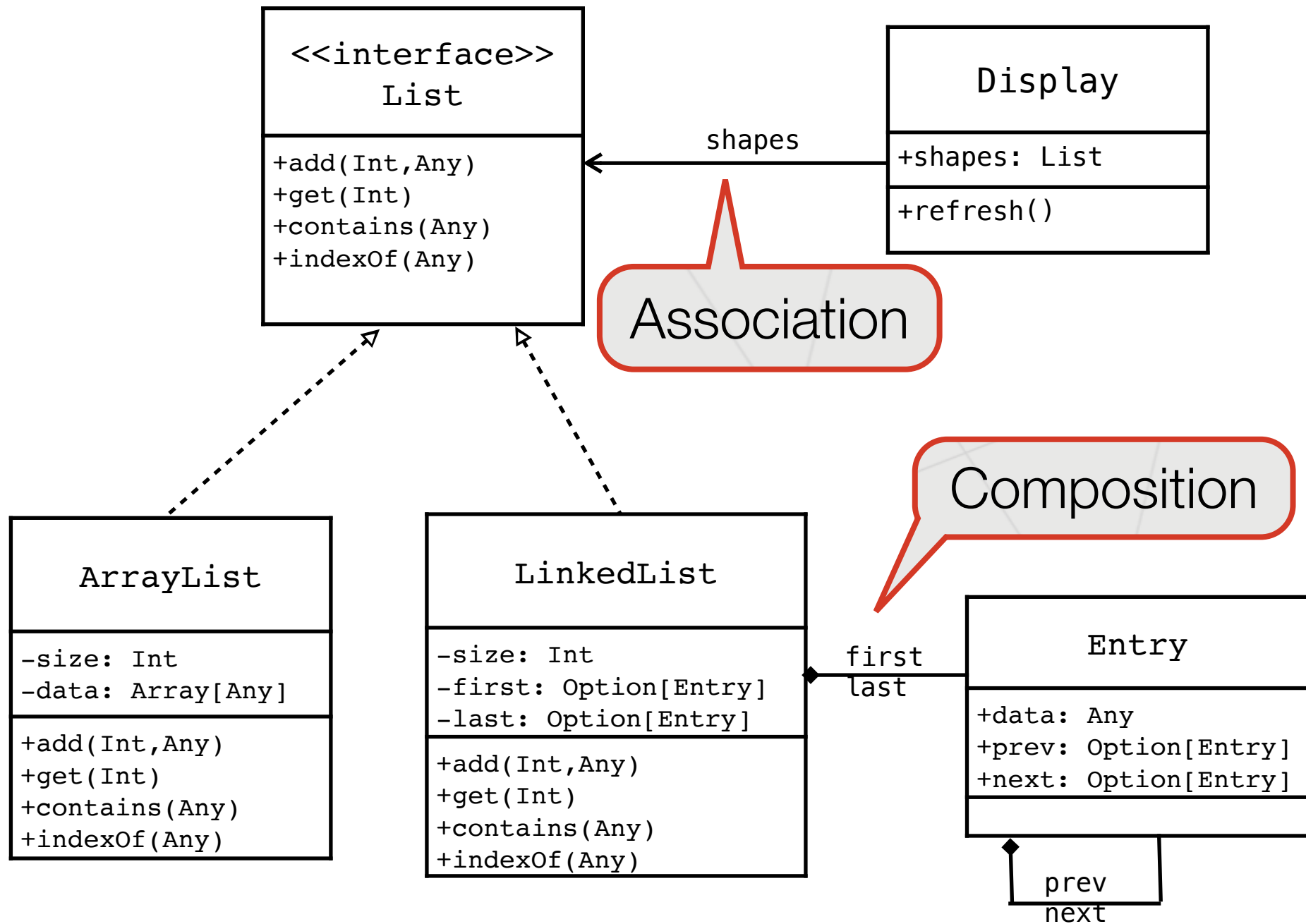
    def add(index: Int, element: Any): Unit = {
        val e = new Entry(element)
        val after = getEntry(index)
        e.next = Some(after)
        e.previous = after.previous
        if (after.previous.isEmpty) first = Some(e)
        else after.previous.get.next = Some(e)
        after.previous = Some(e)
        size += 1
    }
    ...
}

```

```

class Entry(var data: Any) {
    var next: Option[Entry] = None
    var previous: Option[Entry] = None
}

```



# What do you mean OOP?

What do you think about the definition and use of Entry?

```
class LinkedList extends List {  
  private var first: Option[Entry] = None  
  private var last: Option[Entry] = None  
  private var size = 0  
  ...  
  def add(index: Int, element: Any): Unit = {  
    val e = new Entry(element)  
    val after = getEntry(index)  
    e.next = Some(after)  
    e.previous = after.previous  
    if (after.previous.isEmpty) first = Some(e)  
    else after.previous.get.next = Some(e)  
    after.previous = Some(e)  
    size += 1  
  }  
  ...  
}
```

```
class Entry(var data: Any) {  
  var next: Option[Entry] = None  
  var previous: Option[Entry] = None  
}
```

# Lists in Scala

The List interface has many more methods

```
trait List {  
  def add(index: Int, element: Any): Unit  
  def get(index: Int): Any  
  def contains(o: Any): Boolean  
  def indexOf(o: Any): Int  
  def add(element: Any): Unit // add last  
  def addAll(index: Int, c: Seq[Any]): Unit  
  def getSize(): Int  
  def lastIndexOf(o: Any): Unit  
  def removeRange(start: Int, end: Int): Unit  
  def subList(from: Int, to: Int): List  
  ...  
}
```

how would you implement add and  
addAll in ArrayList?  
in LinkedList?

Do it!



# Lists in Scala

These methods have the SAME implementation in any concrete list class!

```
def add(element: Any) = {  
    add(getSize(), element)  
}
```

```
def addAll(index: Int, c: Seq[Any]) = {  
    for(o <- c.reverse){  
        add(index, o)  
    }  
}
```

# Reusing Implementation

---

A class is a factory of objects

it holds the “template” out of which its instances are made

definitions of fields and methods

Inheritance is a mechanism for reusing and extending factories

produce similar kinds of objects, with variations/extensions

# Avoiding code duplication: Inheritance

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A class can INHERIT from another class

it inherits all methods and fields

(therefore, it is a subtype)

The superclass

factors common state and behavior of its subclasses

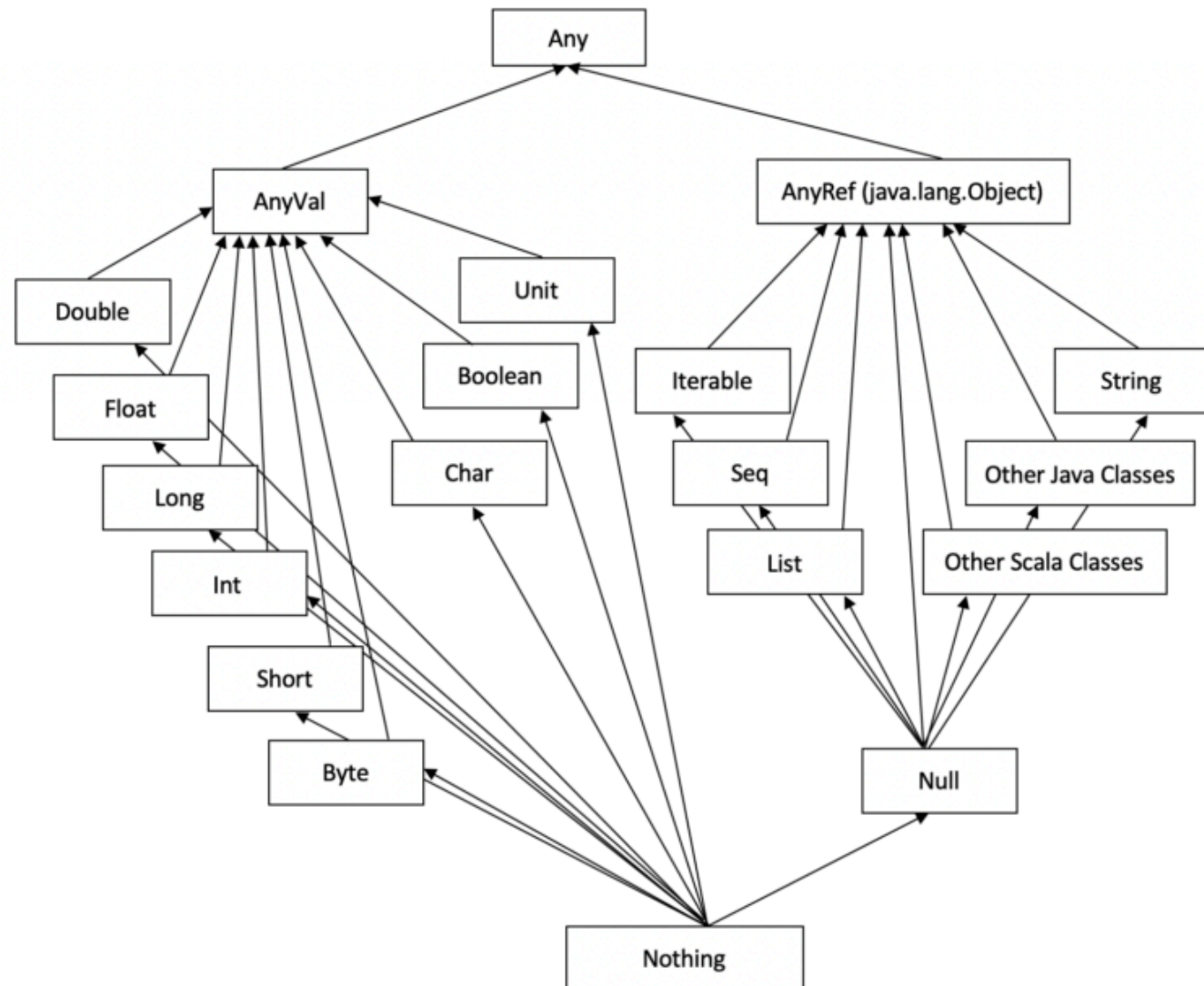
# Class Hierarchies

## Inheritance

all classes inherit from a root class (Any in Scala)

with single class inheritance, hierarchy is a tree

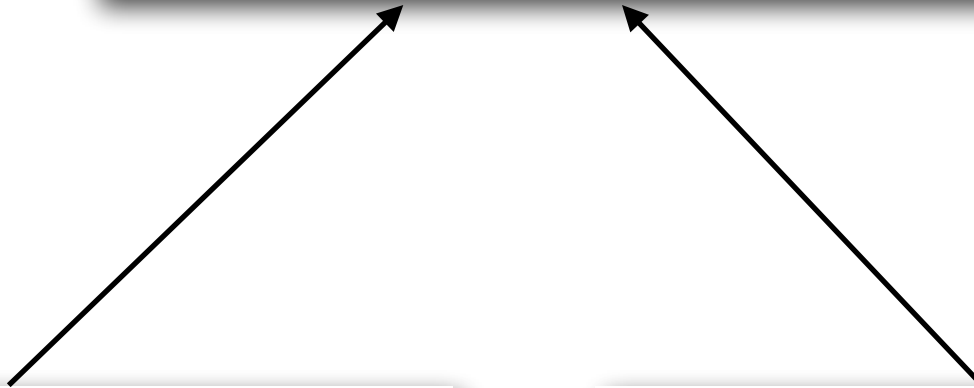
Not an UML Diagram!!



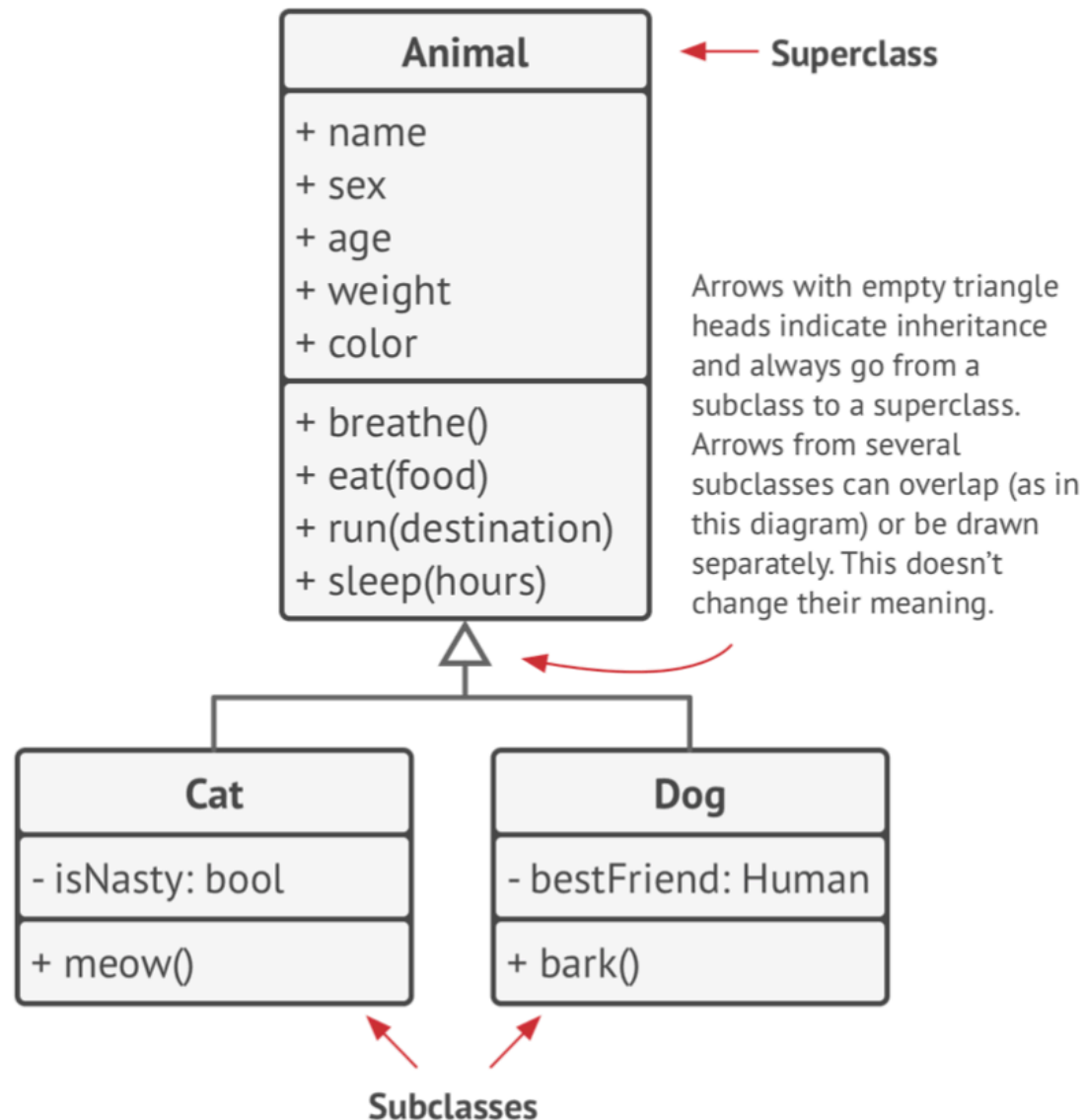
```
class AbstractList extends List{  
  def add(element: Any) = {  
    add(getSize(), element)  
  }  
  
  def addAll(index: Int, c: Seq[Any]) = {  
    for (o <- c.reverse) {  
      add(index, o)  
    }  
  }  
  ...  
}
```

```
class ArrayList(capacity: Int)  
  extends AbstractList {  
  ...  
}
```

```
class LinkedList extends AbstractList {  
  ...  
}
```



# UML diagram of a class hierarchy



# Abstract class

---

An abstract class is an incomplete class.

```
abstract class AbstractList extends List{  
    ...  
}
```

Abstract classes are not meant to be used as a type. Use interfaces/traits for that purpose!

You should **not** write:

```
val button: AbstractList = new LinkedList()
```

# Abstract class

Does it make sense to create an AbstractList object?

```
abstract class AbstractList extends List{  
  ...  
}
```

an abstract class cannot  
be instantiated

What about all the other methods of List?

```
abstract class AbstractList extends List{  
  def add(index: Int, element: Any): Unit  
  def get(index: Int): Any  
  ...  
}
```

abstract methods **MUST** be implemented (or  
inherited) by all concrete subclasses



# Transitivity of Requirements

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A **concrete** class must implement (or inherit implementations for):

- the methods of the interfaces it implements

- the methods of the interfaces from which these interfaces extend (transitively)

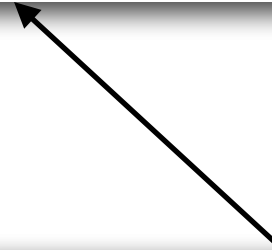
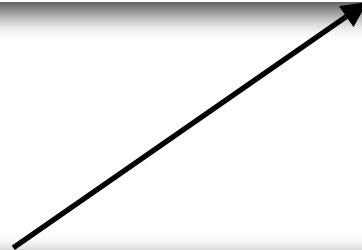
- all the abstract methods it inherits, for which no superclass provides an implementation

```
abstract class AbstractList extends List{

    def add(index: Int, element: Any): Unit
    def get(index: Int): Any

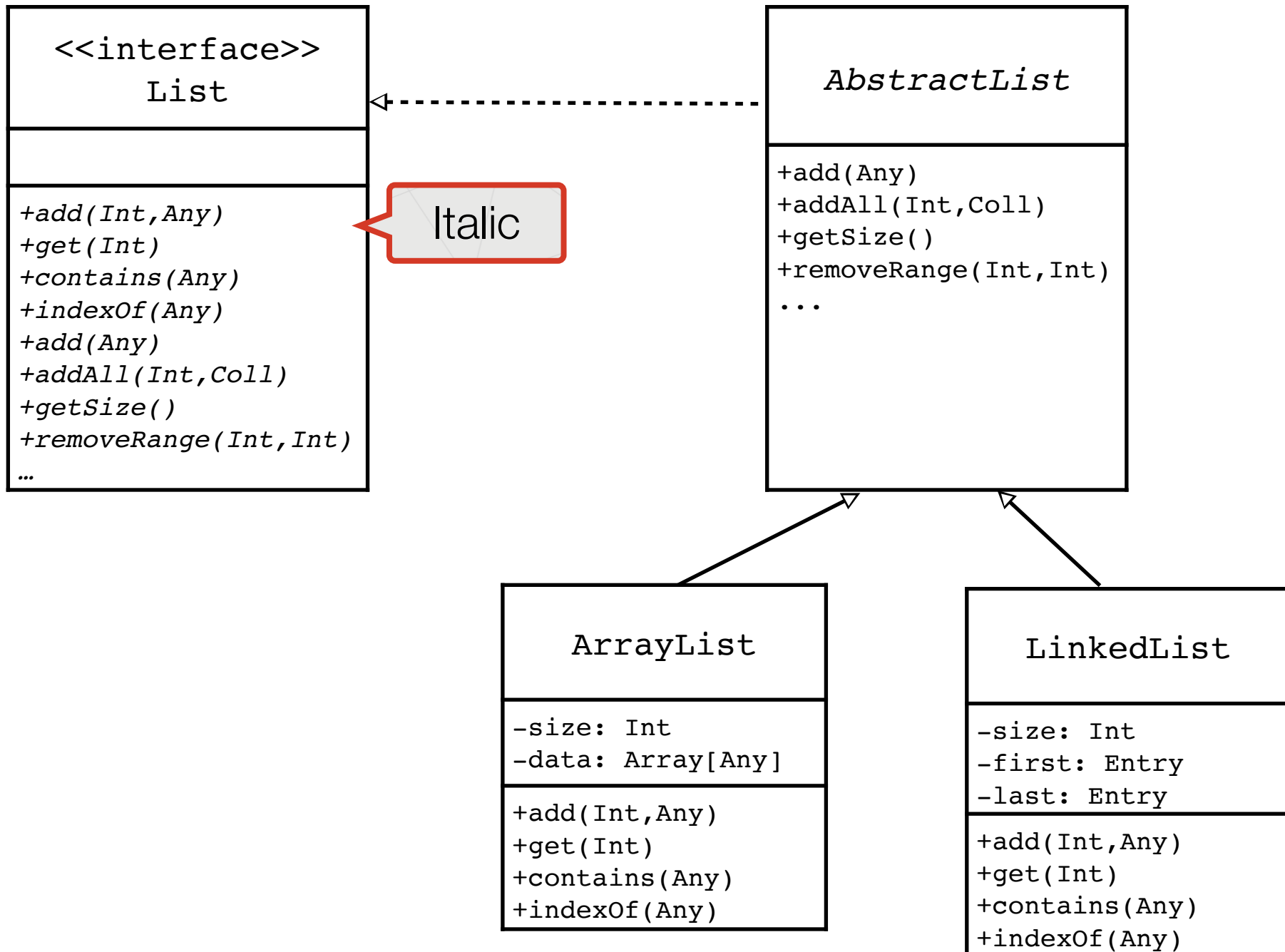
    def add(element: Any) = {
        add(getSize(), element)
    }

    def addAll(index: Int, c: Seq[Any]) = {
        for (o <- c.reverse) {
            add(index, o)
        }
    }
    ...
}
```



```
class ArrayList extends AbstractList {
    ...
    def get(index: Int): Any = {
        data(index)
    }
    ...
}
```

```
class LinkedList extends AbstractList {
    ...
    def get(index: Int): Any = {
        getEntry(index).data
    }
    ...
}
```



java.util

## Interface List<E>

### All Superinterfaces:

[Collection](#)<E>, [Iterable](#)<E>

### All Known Implementing Classes:

[AbstractList](#), [AbstractSequentialList](#), [ArrayList](#), [AttributeList](#), [CopyOnWriteArrayList](#), [LinkedList](#), [RoleList](#), [RoleUnresolvedList](#), [Stack](#), [Vector](#)

java.util

## Class ArrayList<E>

[java.lang.Object](#)

- └ [java.util.AbstractCollection](#)
- └ [java.util.AbstractList](#)
- └ [java.util.ArrayList](#)

### All Implemented Interfaces:

[Serializable](#), [Cloneable](#), [Iterable](#)

### Direct Known Subclasses:

[AttributeList](#), [RoleList](#), [RoleUn](#)

java.util

## Class LinkedList<E>

[java.lang.Object](#)

- └ [java.util.AbstractCollection](#)<E>
- └ [java.util.AbstractList](#)<E>
- └ [java.util.AbstractSequentialList](#)<E>
- └ [java.util.LinkedList](#)<E>

### Type Parameters:

E - the type of elements held in this collection

### All Implemented Interfaces:

[Serializable](#), [Cloneable](#), [Iterable](#)<E>, [Collection](#)<E>, [List](#)<E>, [Queue](#)<E>

# Abstract Classes

---

No instances -- just useful because of inheritance

As superclasses, they gather common implementation of their subclasses

Different kinds of methods

- abstract

- concrete (self-contained)

- hybrid: implementation that relies on abstract methods

```
abstract class AbstractList{

  def add(index: Int, element: Any): Unit
  def get(index: Int): Any

  def add(element: Any) = {
    add(getSize(), element)
  }

  def addAll(index: Int, c: Seq[Any]) = {
    for (o <- c.reverse) {
      add(index, o)
    }
  }
  ...
}
```

abstract?

concrete?

hybrid?

# Design Process

---

Incremental, learn through experience

start with interface

develop the implementation that is needed

if other implementations needed, code them and factor out commonalities in an abstract class

refine... and possibly introduce intermediate abstract classes

NOTE:

A purely abstract class  
(no fields, only abstract methods)  
is “similar” to an interface





# EffectiveJava #18

## Prefer interfaces to abstract classes

easy to retrofit a class to implement a new interface

interfaces are ideal for mixins (additional, optional behavior, like Comparable, Serializable...)

interfaces support non-hierarchical frameworks

## Best of both worlds

interface

skeletal implementation class (abstract)



# The Comparable “Mixin”

java.lang

## Interface Comparable

This interface imposes a total ordering on the objects of each class that implements it. This ordering is referred to as the class's *natural ordering*, and the class's `compareTo` method is referred to as its *natural comparison method*.

Lists (and arrays) of objects that implement this interface can be sorted automatically by `Collections.sort` (and `Arrays.sort`). Objects that implement this interface can be used as keys in a sorted map or elements in a sorted set, without the need to specify a comparator.

### Method Summary

int	<code>compareTo(Object o)</code> Compares this object with the specified object for order.
-----	---

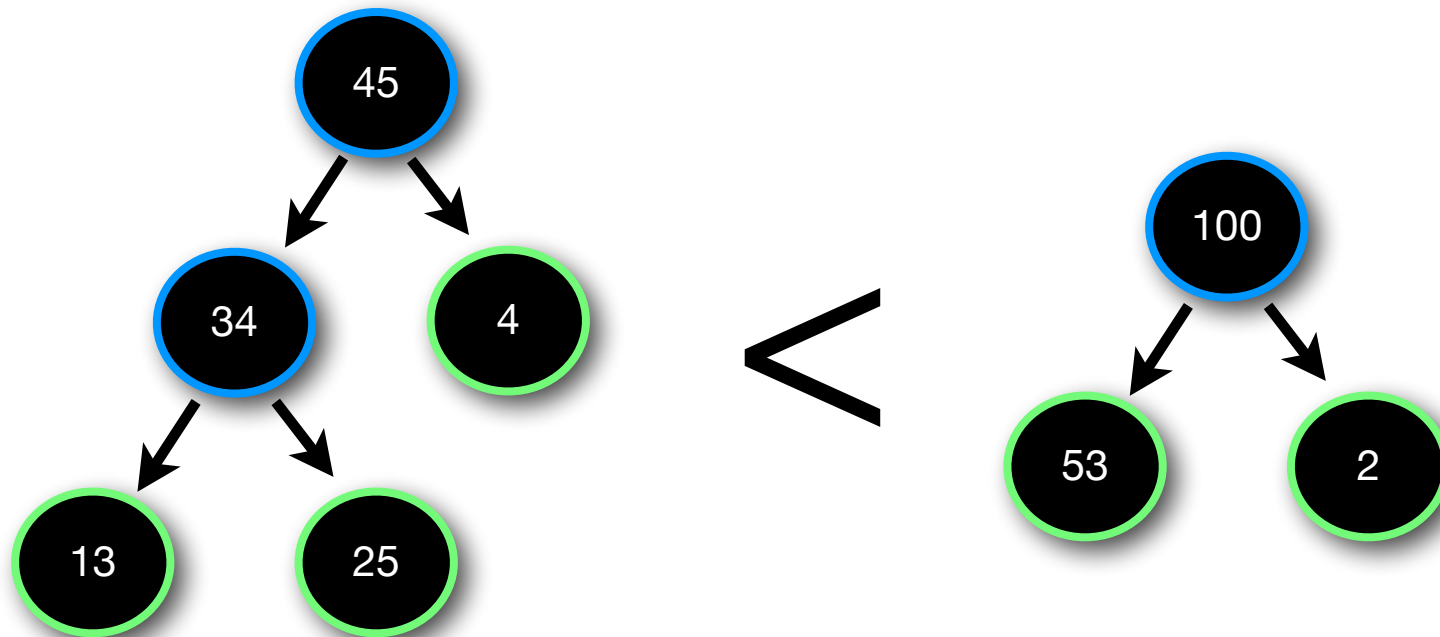
### Method Detail

#### `compareTo`

```
public int compareTo(Object o)
```

Compares this object with the specified object for order. Returns a negative integer, zero, or a positive integer as this object is less than, equal to, or greater than the specified object.

# Comparable

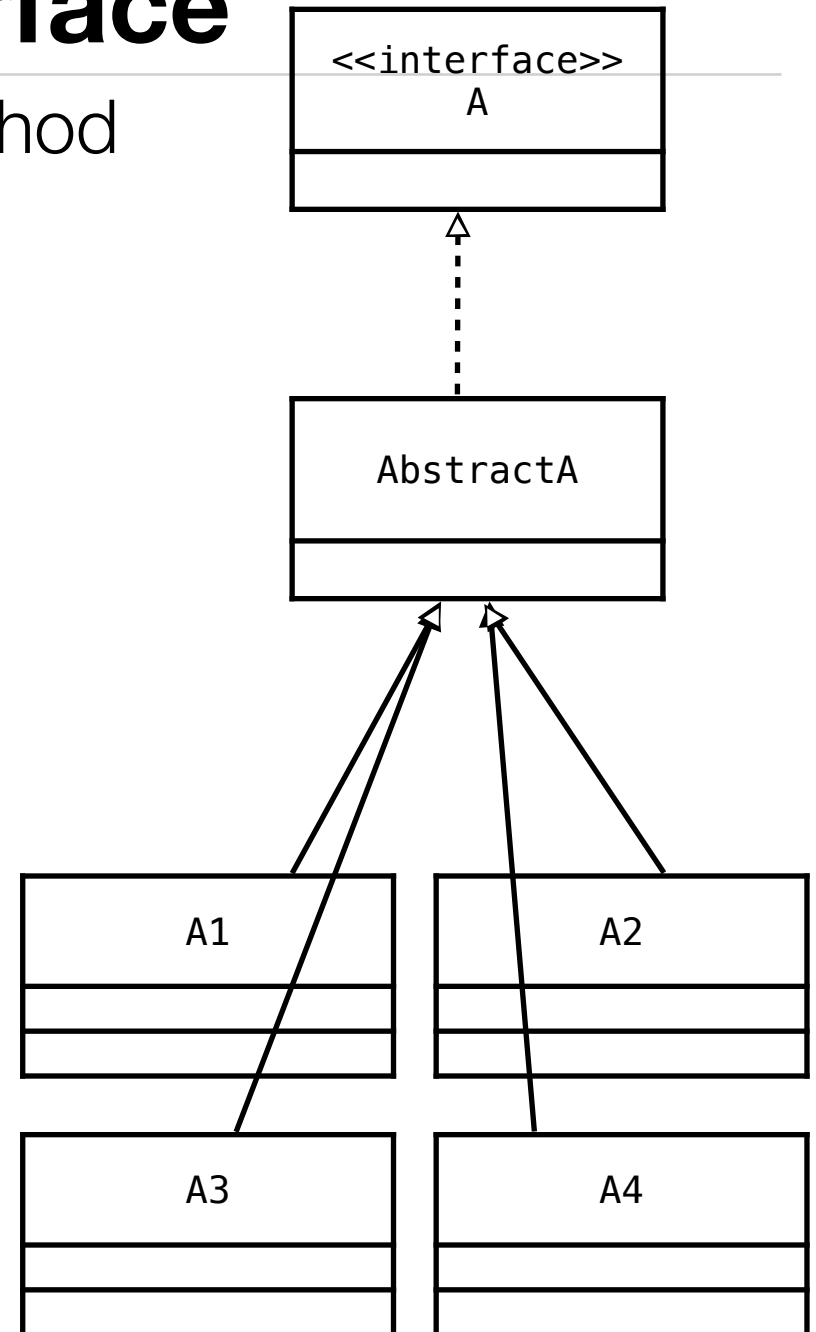
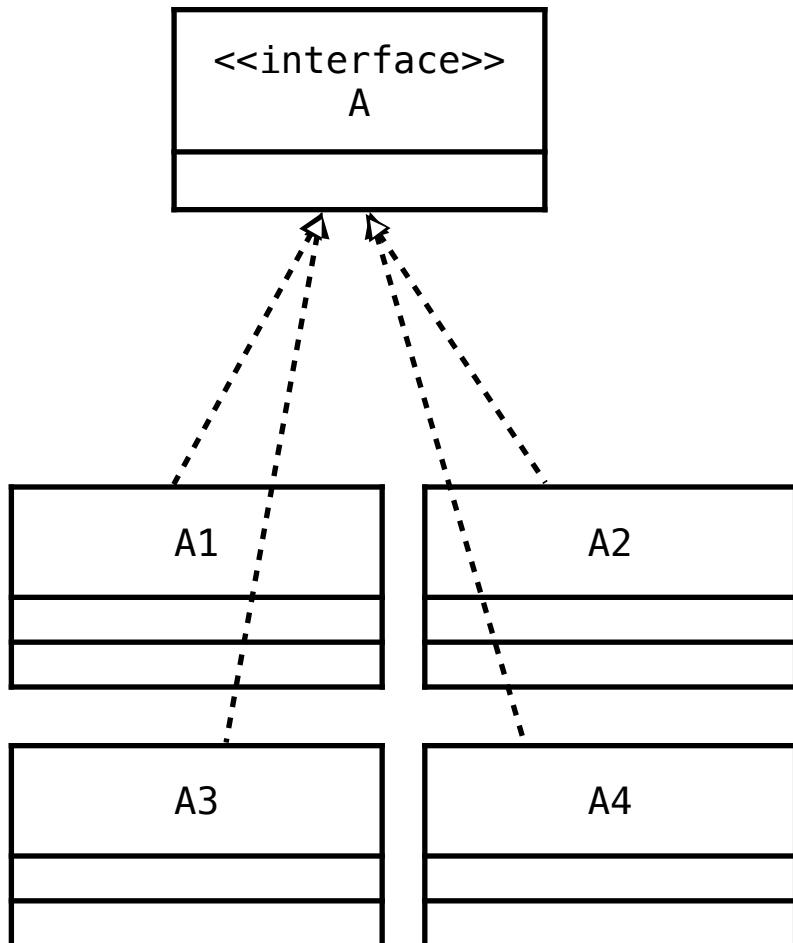


Do it!

# Abstract Class vs. Interface

what if we need to add a new method to the interface?

**interface** TreeNode **extends** Comparable

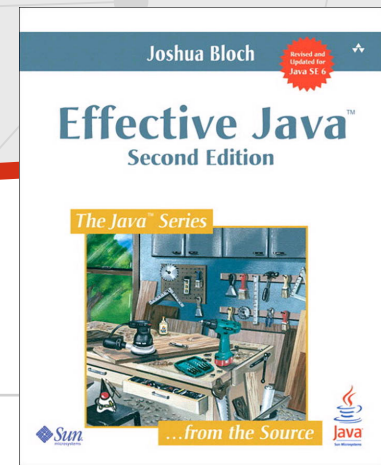


# EffectiveJava #18 continued

There is one advantage of abstract classes

can add a new method without breaking existing subclasses

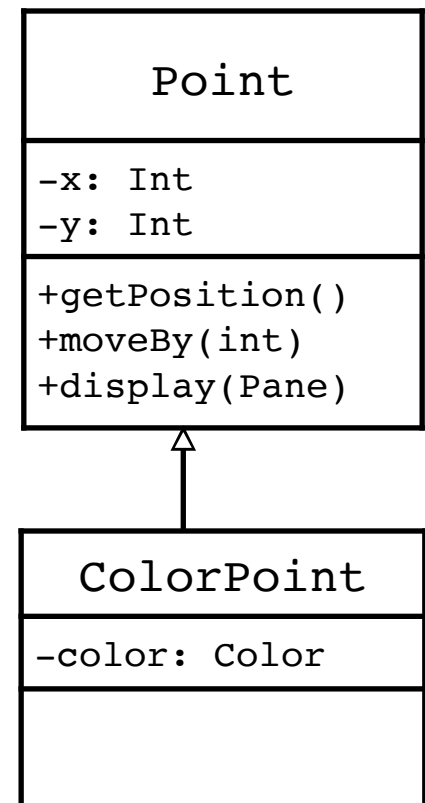
evolving an interface is much more troublesome



# Extension and Refinement

A class can not only extend traits or abstract classes. It can also extends other classes.

If class A extends class B, then we say that A is a subclass and B is a superclass



# Extension and Refinement

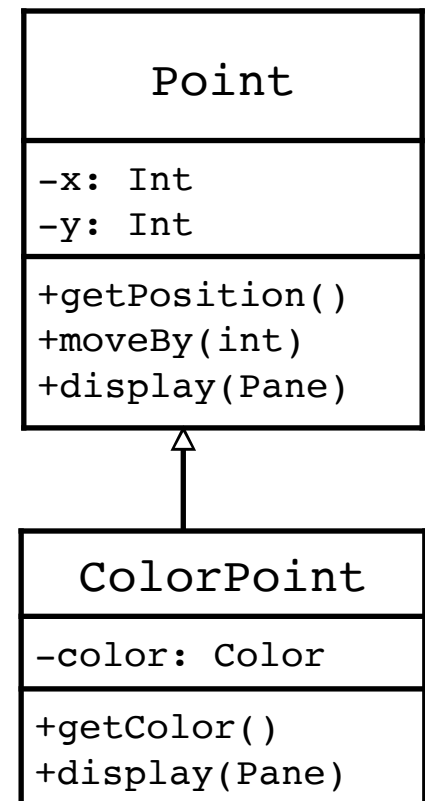
A subclass can do more than implement abstract methods!

it can define **new** methods

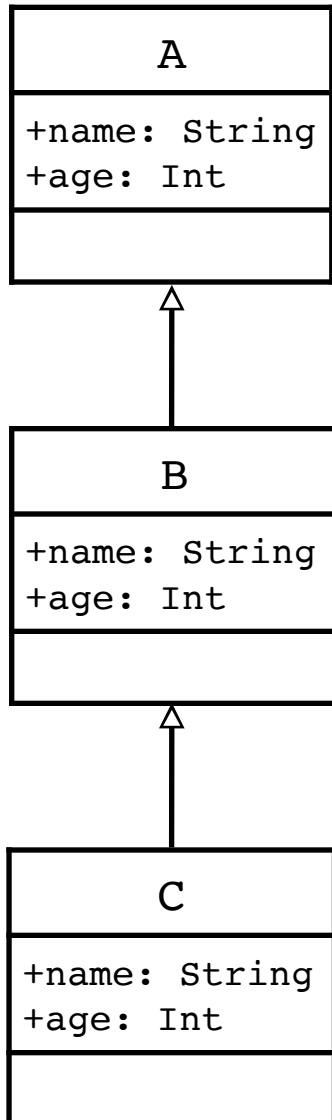
and **refine** existing behavior (more on this next class)

```
val p = new Point(10, 10)
p.display(thisSlide)
```

```
val cp = new ColorPoint(20, 10, RED)
cp.display(thisSlide)
```



# Superclass constructors are sequentially executed



```
abstract class A(var name: String, var age: Int){
    println("A.constructor")
}
class B(name: String) extends A(name, 0){
    println("B.constructor")
}
class C extends B("Foo"){
    println("C.constructor")
}
```

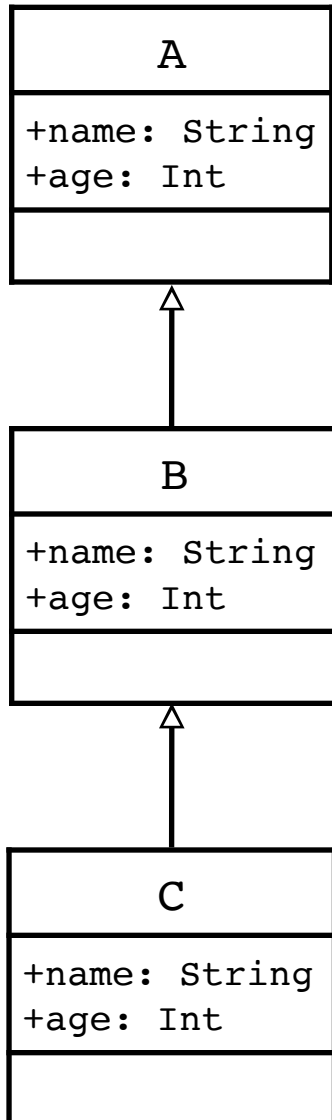
Execution flow for `new C()`:

1. `new C()` is called.
2. `C` constructor starts.
3. `C` calls `B` constructor.
4. `B` constructor starts.
5. `B` calls `A` constructor.
6. `A` constructor starts.
7. `A` constructor finishes.
8. `B` constructor finishes.
9. `C` constructor finishes.

```
new C()
```



# Superclass constructors are sequentially executed



```
abstract class A(var name: String, var age: Int){
    println("A.constructor")
    def this(name: String) = {
        this(name, 0)
    }
}

class B(name: String) extends A(name){
    println("B.constructor")
    def this() = {
        this("Foo")
    }
}

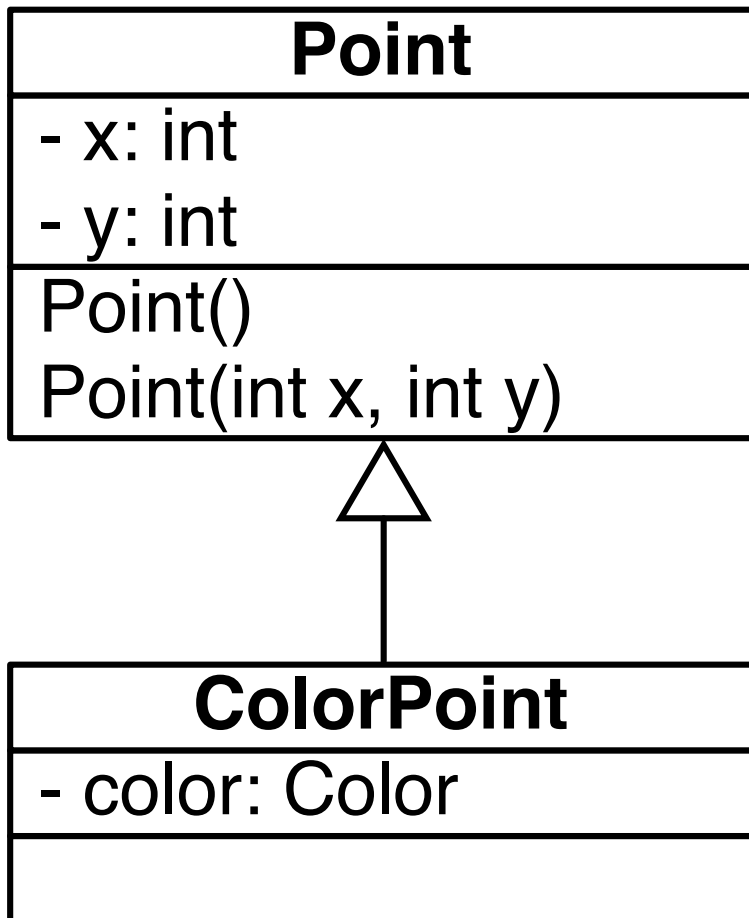
class C extends B{
    println("C.constructor")
}
```

Execution flow (numbered 1-7):

- 1: Start of `class C` constructor.
- 2: Call to `super()` (implicit) in `class C`, leading to `B.this()`.
- 3: Call to `super(name)` in `class B`, leading to `A.this(name)`.
- 4: Call to `this(name, 0)` in `class A`.
- 5: End of `class A` constructor.
- 6: End of `class B` constructor.
- 7: End of `class C` constructor.

Note: There's no way to call directly alternative super constructor from alternative constructors

# Constructor are not inherited!

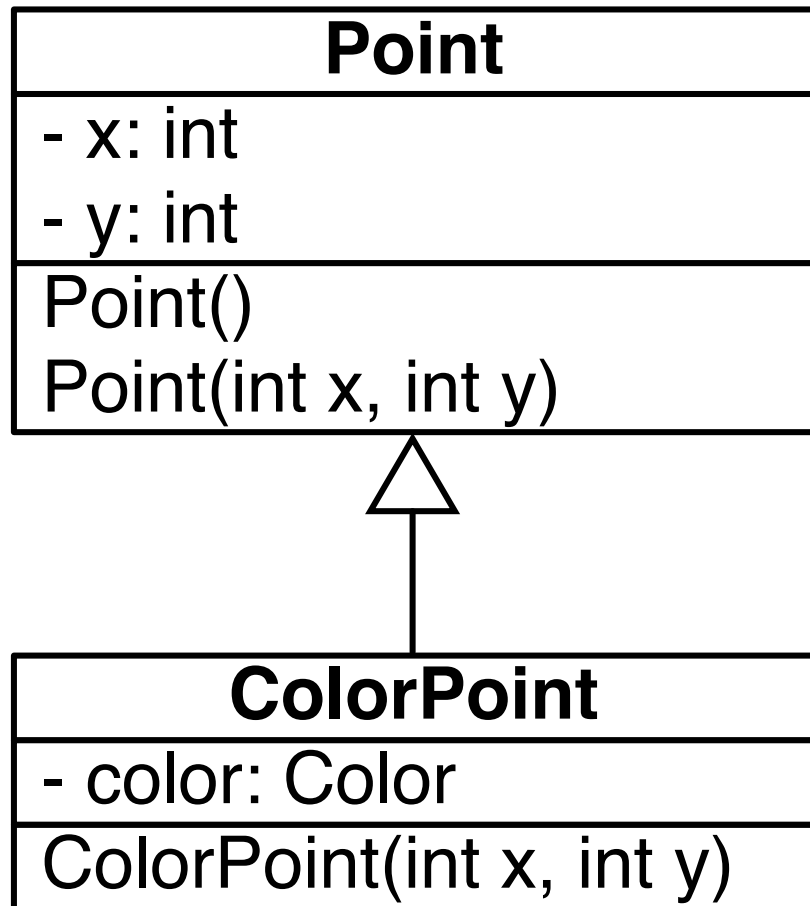


```
new Point()  
new Point(2,3)  
=> Okay
```

```
new ColorPoint()  
=> Okay (because of the  
default constructor)
```

```
new ColorPoint(2,3)  
=> Does not compile
```

# Missing default constructor

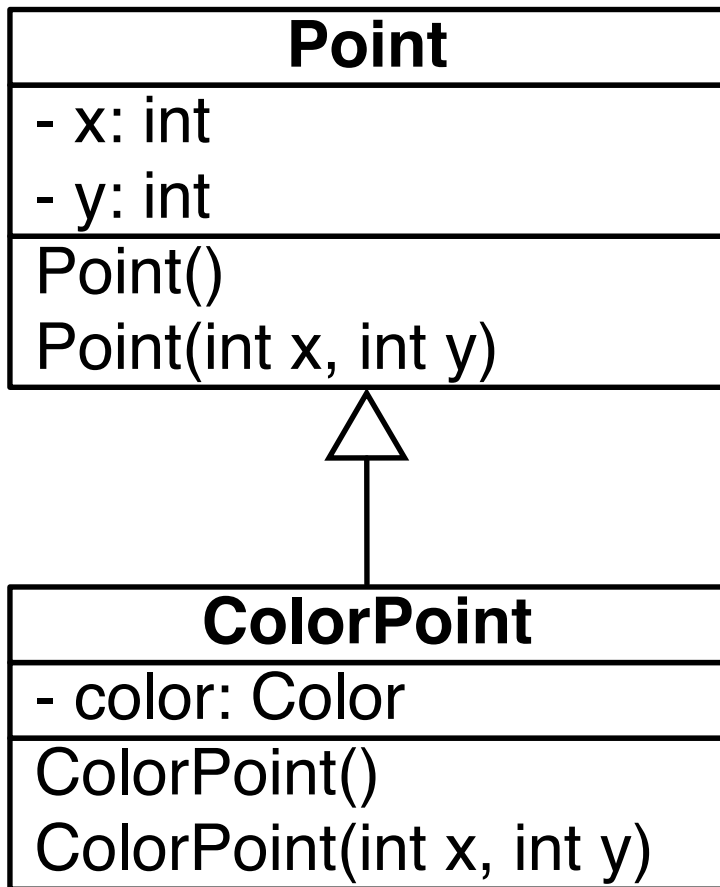


**new** Point()  
**new** Point(2, 3)  
=> Okay

**new** ColorPoint()  
=> Does not compile  
(because there is no  
default constructor)

**new** ColorPoint(2, 3)  
=> Okay

# Missing default constructor



```
new Point()  
new Point(2,3)  
=> Okay
```

```
new ColorPoint()  
=> Okay
```

```
new ColorPoint(2,3)  
=> Okay
```

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