



SWEG2031

Object Oriented Programming

Software Engineering Department

AASTU

Chapter 4

Inheritance

Objectives

- Explore the derivation of new classes from existing ones.
- Define and use abstract methods, abstract classes, and interfaces.
- Use `super()` constructor

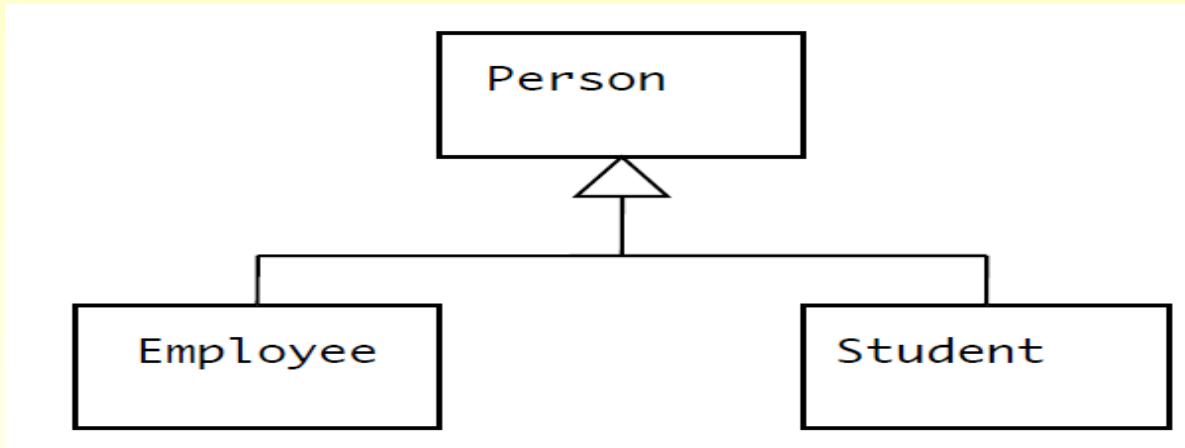
Content

- Inheritance
- Method overloading and overriding
- Abstract classes and Interfaces

Introduction

- Inheritance can be defined as the process where one object acquires the properties of another.
- It allows you to **derive** new classes from existing classes.
- Allows **reusing** code.
- To **avoid redundancy** and make the system easy to comprehend and easy to maintain use inheritance.
- Example: Consider people at AASTU. Broadly speaking, they fall into two categories: employees and students.
 - Some features that both employees and students have in common - **name, address, date of birth**, etc.
 - Some features that are unique to each kind of person
 - employee has a pay rate, but a student does not;
 - a student has a GPA, but an employee does not, etc.

Cont'd...



- Employee and Student **inherit all the features** of the class Person **except for the private properties**.
 - In addition, each of the classes Employee and Student can have features of **its own** not shared with the other classes.
- **Superclass(base class)**: Parent class being extended.
- **Subclass**: Child class that inherits behavior from superclass.
 - A subclass is **not a subset** of its super-class
- **is-a relationship**: Each object of the subclass also "is a(n)" object of the superclass and can be treated as one.

Cont'd...

■ “is a” versus “has a”

■ Is-a

- expresses a relationship between a more special and a more general class
- A **Student** *is a* **Person**

■ Another relationship is the "has-a"

- relationship between classes when a class is an attribute of another class.
- E.g. 1 A car <has-a> engine.
- E.g. 2 A lecture <has-a> student.

```
public class Car {  
    private Engine anEngine;  
    private Lights carLights;  
    public start () {  
        anEngine.ignite ();  
        carLights.turnOn ();  
    }  
}
```

```
public class Engine {  
    public boolean ignite () {  
        .. }  
}  
  
public class Lights {  
    private boolean isOn;  
    public void turnOn () {  
        isOn = true;}  
}
```

Cont'd...

- To inherit a class, you simply incorporate the definition of one class into another by using the **extends** keyword.

- Syntax:

- `public class name extends superclass {`

- Example:

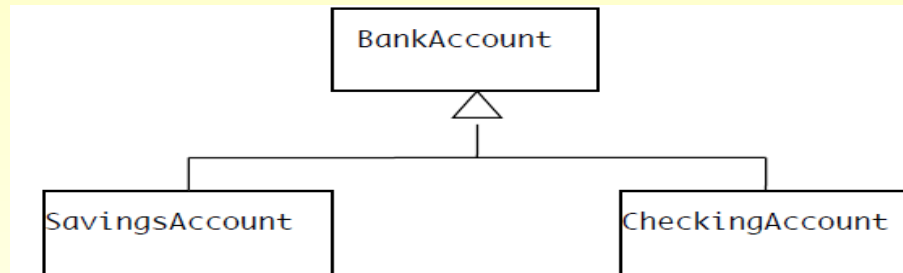
```
class Person {  
    ...  
}  
class Employee extends Person {  
    ...  
}  
class Student extends Person {  
    ...  
}
```


Cont'd...

- ```
public class Animal{
 }
 public class Mammal extends Animal{
 }
 public class Reptile extends Animal{
 }
 public class Dog extends Mammal{

 }
```
- based on the above example, in object oriented terms the following are true:
  - Animal is the superclass of Mammal class.
  - Animal is the superclass of Reptile class.
  - Mammal and Reptile are subclasses of Animal class.
  - Dog is the subclass of both Mammal and Animal classes
- if we consider the IS-A relationship, we can say:
  - Mammal IS-A Animal
  - Reptile IS-A Animal
  - Dog IS-A Mammal
  - Hence : Dog IS-A Animal as well

# Example: a class hierarchy for bank accounts



- The classes `SavingsAccount` and `CheckingAccount` inherit the features of `BankAccount`
  - a) Since a `BankAccount` has an owner and a balance, so does a `SavingsAccount` or a `CheckingAccount`.
  - b) Since a `BankAccount` has methods `deposit()`, `reportBalance()`, and `getAccountNumber()`, so does a `SavingsAccount` or a `CheckingAccount`.
- Savings account adds features that an ordinary `BankAccount` does not have - e.g. `payInterest()` and `setInterestRate()`.
- `CheckingAccount` overrides the `withdraw()` method of `BankAccount`.
  - a) In the special case where the checking account balance is insufficient for the withdrawal, but the customer has a savings account with enough money in it, the withdrawal is made from savings instead.
  - b) In all other cases, the inherited behavior is used by invoking `super.withdraw(amount)`.

# Cont'd...

- In designing a class hierarchy, methods should be placed at the **appropriate** level. Example:
  - deposit(), reportBalance(), and getAccountNumber() are defined in the base class BankAccount, and so are inherited by the two subclasses.
  - If they were defined in the subclasses, we would have to **repeat the code twice** - extra work and an invitation to **inconsistency**.
  - On the other hand, payInterest() and setInterestRate() are defined in SavingsAccount, because they are not relevant for CheckingAccounts.
  - withdraw() is defined in BankAccount and overridden in CheckingAccount. Why is this better than simply defining separate versions in CheckingAccount and SavingsAccount?

# Example

```
// Create a superclass
class A {
 int i, j;
 void showij() {
 System.out.println("i and j: " + i + " " + j);
 }
}

// Create a subclass by extending class A.
class B extends A {
 int k;
 void showk() {
 System.out.println("k: " + k);
 }
 void sum() {
 System.out.println("i+j+k: " + (i+j+k));
 }
}
```

# Example(cont'd)

```
class SimpleInheritance {
 public static void main(String args[]) {
 A superOb = new A();
 B subOb = new B();
 // The superclass may be used by itself.
 superOb.i = 10;
 superOb.j = 20;
 System.out.println("Contents of superOb: ");
 superOb.showij();
 System.out.println();
 //The subclass has access to all public members of its superclass
 subOb.i = 7;
 subOb.j = 8;
 subOb.k = 9;
 System.out.println("Contents of subOb: ");
 subOb.showij();
 subOb.showk();
 System.out.println();
 System.out.println("Sum of i, j and k in subOb:");
 subOb.sum();
 }
}
```

# Example(cont'd)

## Output:

Contents of superOb:

i and j: 10 20

Contents of subOb:

i and j: 7 8

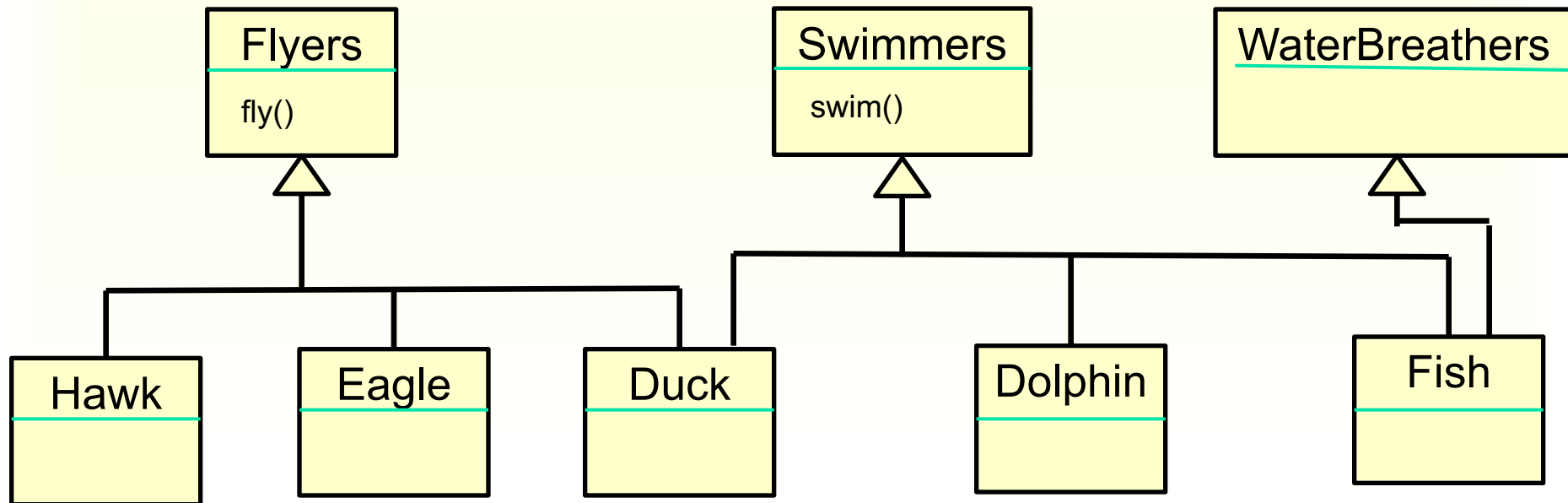
k: 9

Sum of i, j and k in subOb:

i+j+k: 24

# Multiple Inheritance

- Java's approach to inheritance is called **single inheritance**
- But what happens if some behaviors or attributes are common to a group of classes but some of those classes include behaviors shared with other groups?
- Or some groups of classes share some behaviors but not others?
- Java interfaces provide the best features of multiple inheritance



# Activity

- Draw a class diagram showing an inheritance hierarchy containing classes that represent different types of cars



# Method Overloading

- Overloading means to define multiple methods with **the same name** but **different signatures**.
- Method calls **cannot be distinguished by return type** if they have the same number and type of parameters.

E.g. If we define method: **public int square(int no)**

It is not allowed to define another method like this:

**public double square(int no)**

## Example 1:

```
public class Foo{
 public void display() { }
 public void display(int i) { }
 public void display(char ch) { }
}

Foo f = new Foo ();
f.display();
f.display(10);
f.display('c');
```

## Example 2

```
public class MethodOverload{
 // test overloaded square methods
 public void testOverloadedMethods(){
 System.out.printf("Square of integer 7 is " +square(7));
 System.out.printf("Square of double 7.5 is" + square(7.5));
 }
 public int square(int intValue){
 System.out.printf("Called square with int argument:" +intValue);
 return intValue * intValue;
 }
 public double square(double doubleValue){
 System.out.printf("\nCalled square with double argument:"
+doubleValue);
 return doubleValue * doubleValue;
 }
}
```

## Example 2(cont'd)

```
public class MethodOverloadTest{
 public static void main(String args[]){
 MethodOverload methodOverload = new MethodOverload();
 methodOverload.testOverloadedMethods();
 }
}
```

# Method Overriding

- Overriding means to provide a **new** implementation for a method in the **subclass**.
- To override a method, the method must be defined in the subclass using the **same signature** and the **same return type**
- Benefit of overriding is ability to define a behavior that's specific to the subclass type which means a subclass can implement a parent class method **based on its requirement**.

# Example1

```
class Animal{
 public void move(){
 System.out.println("Animals can move");
 }
}
```

```
class Dog extends Animal{
 public void move(){
 System.out.println("Dogs can walk and run");
 }
}
```

# Example1(cont'd)

```
public class TestDog{
 public static void main(String args[]){
 Animal a =new Animal();
 Dog b =new Dog();
 a.move(); // runs the method in Animal class
 b.move(); //Runs the method in Dog class
 }
}
```

## **Program Output**

Animals can move

Dogs can walk and run

## Example 2

```
class Animal2{
 public void move(){
 System.out.println("Animals can move");
 }
}
class Dog2 extends Animal2{
 public void move(){
 System.out.println("Dogs can walk and run");
 }
 public void bark(){
 System.out.println("Dogs can bark");
 }
}
```

# Example2(cont'd)

```
public class TestDog2{
 public static void main(String args[]){
 Animal2 a =new Animal2(); //Animal reference and object
 Animal2 b =new Dog2(); //Animal reference but Dog object
 a.move(); // runs the method in Animal class
 b.move(); //Runs the method in Dog class
 b.bark();
 }
}
```

## ■ Program output:

```
cannot find symbol
symbol : method bark()
location: class Animal
 b.bark();
```

This program will throw a compile time error since b's reference type Animal doesn't have a method by the name of bark



# Rules for method overriding

- The **argument list should be exactly the same** as that of the overridden method.
- The **return type should be the same**
- The **access level cannot be more restrictive than the overridden method's access level**. For example, if the superclass method is declared public, then the overriding method in the subclass cannot be either private or protected.
- Instance methods can be overridden only if they are inherited by the subclass.
- A method declared **static cannot be overridden**.
- A subclass within the same package as the instance's superclass can override any superclass method that is not declared private
- A subclass in a different package can only override methods declared public or protected.

# The super keyword

- It can be used in two ways:
- **(I) To call a superclass constructor.**
- Each subclass constructor must implicitly or explicitly call its superclass constructor
- Syntax: *super()*, or *super(parameters)*;
- statement *super()* or *super(arguments)* must appear in the first line of the subclass.

```
public Student(String initialName, int initialStudentNumber)
{
 super(initialName);
 studentNumber = initialStudentNumber;
}
```

# The super keyword(cont'd)

- If a class is designed to be extended, it is better to provide a no-arg constructor to avoid programming errors.

- **Example:**

```
class Fruit{
 public Fruit(String name) {
 System.out.println("Fruit's constructor is invoked");
 }
}
public class Apple extends Fruit {
}
```

- Since no constructor is explicitly defined in Apple, Apple's default no-arg constructor is defined implicitly. Since Apple is a subclass of Fruit, Apple's default constructor automatically invokes Fruit's no-arg constructor. However, Fruit does not have a no-arg constructor, because Fruit has an explicit constructor defined. Therefore, the program cannot be compiled.

# The super keyword(cont'd)

- **(II) To call a superclass method**, when invoking a superclass version of an overridden method.
- Syntax: `super.method(parameters);`

# The super keyword(cont'd)

## ■ Example

```
class Animal3{
 public void move(){
 System.out.println("Animals can move");
 }
}
class Dog3 extends Animal3{
 public void move(){
 super.move();// invokes the super class method
 System.out.println("Dogs can walk and run");
 }
}
public class TestDog3{
 public static void main(String args[]){
 Dog3 b =new Dog3();
 b.move();//Runs the method in Dog class
 }
}
```

## ■ program Output

Animals can move

Dogs can walk and run

# Activity 1

What will be an output of the following program?

```
public class Test{
 public static void main(String[] args) {
 A a = new A(3);
 }
}
class A extends B {
 public A(int t) {
 System.out.println("A's constructor is invoked");
 }
}
class B {
 public B() {
 System.out.println("B's constructor is invoked");
 }
}
```

Output: B's constructor is invoked  
A's constructor is invoked

# Activity 2

Identify error in the following program

```
class A {
 public A(int x) {
 System.out.println("A's Constructor");
 }
}
class B extends A {
 public B() {
 System.out.println("B's Constructor");
 }
}
public class C {
 public static void main(String[] args) {
 B b = new B();
 }
}
```

**Error:**

Can't find constructor A()

# Abstract Class

- Class that **cannot be instantiated**.
- An abstract class must include the keyword **abstract** in its definition.
- An abstract class has an **incomplete definition** because the class includes the **abstract method** that does not have a method body.

- **Format:**

```
public abstract class <class name>{
 <public/private/protected> abstract method ();
}
```



# An abstract method

- An ***abstract method*** is a method with the keyword ***abstract***, and it ends with a semicolon instead of a method body.
- If you want a class to **contain a particular method** but you want the **actual implementation** of that method to be determined by child classes, you can declare the method in the parent class as abstract.
- An abstract method **consists of a method signature**, but **no method body**.
- A class is abstract if the class **contains an abstract method** or **does not provide an implementation of an inherited abstract method**.

# Example

```
abstract class A {
 abstract void callme();
 //concrete methods are still allowed in abstract classes
 void callmetoo() {
 System.out.println("This is a concrete method.");
 }
}

class B extends A {
 void callme() {
 System.out.println("B's implementation of callme.");
 }
}
```

# Example(cont'd)

```
class AbstractDemo {
 public static void main(String args[]) {
 B b = new B();
 b.callme();
 b.callmetoo();
 }
}
```

## Output

B's implementation of callme

This is concrete method

# Interfaces

- Using interface, you can specify **what a class must do**, but **not how it does it**.
- Once an interface has been defined, one or more classes can implement that interface.
- An interface **is not a class**. A class describes the attributes and behaviors of an object. An interface **contains behaviors that a class implements**.
- An interface is similar to a class in the following ways:
  - An interface can contain any number of methods.
  - An interface is written in a file with a **.java extension**, with the **name of the interface matching the name of the file**.
  - The bytecode of an interface appears in a **.class file**.

# Interfaces(cont'd)

- interface is different from a class in several ways:
  - You **cannot instantiate** an interface.
  - An interface **does not contain any constructors**.
  - **All** of the **methods in an interface are abstract**.
  - An interface **cannot contain instance fields**. The only fields that can appear in an interface must be declared as **static**.
  - An interface is **not extended by a class**; it is **implemented** by a class.

# Defining an Interface

- General form of an interface:

```
access interface NameOfInterface
{
 //Any number of final, static fields
 //Any number of abstract method declarations
}
```

- *access is either **public** or **not used(default)***

- Variables can be declared inside of interface declarations. They are implicitly **final** and **static**, meaning they cannot be changed by the implementing class.

- Example of an interface definition:

```
interface Callback {
 void callback(int param);
}
```

# Implementing Interfaces

- To implement an interface, include the **implements clause in a class definition**, and then create the methods defined by the interface.

- The general form:

```
access class classname [extends superclass]
 [implements interface [,interface...]] {
 // class-body
}
```

- If a class implements more than one interface, the interfaces are separated with a comma.

# Example

```
interface AnimalInterface{
 public void eat();//abstract method
 public void travel();//abstract method
}
```

-----

```
// class implementing the Animal Interface
public class MammalInt implements AnimalInterface{
 public void eat(){
 System.out.println("Mammal eats");
 }
 public void travel(){
 System.out.println("Mammal travels");
 }
}
```



# Example(cont'd)

```
public class InterfaceDemo{
 public static void main(String args[]){
 MammalInt m = new MammalInt();
 m.eat();
 m.travel();
 }
}
```

-----

Output: Mammal eats  
 Mammal travels

# Inheritance versus Interface

- They are similar because they are both used to model an IS-A relationship.
- We use the Java interface to **share common behavior** (defined by its abstract methods) among the instances of **unrelated classes**.
- We use inheritance, on the other hand, to **share common code** (including both data members and methods) among the instances of **related classes**.

# Abstract class Vs. Interface

| Abstract class                                                                                           | Interface                                                                           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) Abstract class can <b>have abstract and non-abstract</b> methods.                                     | Interface can have <b>only abstract</b> methods.                                    |
| 2) Abstract class <b>doesn't support multiple inheritance</b> .                                          | Interface <b>supports multiple inheritance</b> .                                    |
| 3) Abstract class <b>can have final, non-final, static and non-static variables</b> .                    | Interface has <b>only static and final variables</b> .                              |
| 4) Abstract class <b>can have static methods, main method and constructor</b> .                          | Interface <b>can't have static methods, main method or constructor</b> .            |
| 5) Abstract class <b>can provide the implementation of interface</b> .                                   | Interface <b>can't provide the implementation of abstract class</b> .               |
| 6) The <b>abstract keyword</b> is used to declare abstract class.                                        | The <b>interface keyword</b> is used to declare interface.                          |
| 7) <b>Example:</b><br><pre>public abstract class Shape{<br/>    public abstract void draw();<br/>}</pre> | <b>Example:</b><br><pre>public interface Drawable{<br/>    void draw();<br/>}</pre> |

Simply, abstract class achieves partial abstraction (0 to 100%) whereas interface achieves fully abstraction (100%).

# The Final Modifier

- the keyword `final` means unchanging (used in conjunction with the declaration of constants)
- Methods preceded by the final modifier cannot be overridden  
e.g., `public final void displayTwo ()`
- Classes preceded by the final modifier cannot be extended  
■ e.g., `final public class ParentFoo`

# Exercise

- Design and implement a set of classes that define the employees of a hospital: doctor, nurse, administrator, surgeon, receptionist, janitor, and so on. Include methods in each class that are named according to the services provided by that person and that print an appropriate message.
- Design and implement a set of classes that keep track of various sports statistics. Have each low-level class represent a specific sport.