

# Writing Classes and instanciating Objects in Java with BlueJ



## Chapter 2 – Section 2



# Table of contents

- ☉ The Java language
- ☉ Imperative vs. Object Oriented
- ☉ Java Classes and Objects
- ☉ Another example : the Ball class
- ☉ More about encapsulation
- ☉ A Java program



# Imperative programming, C

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
struct Person {
    char name[25];
    char company[32]; }
void whoAmI(struct Person p){
    printf("My name is %s\n", p.name);
    printf("I work at %s\n », p.company);
}
void main() {
    struct Person aPerson;
    strcpy(aPerson.name, "JONES");
    strcpy(aPerson.company, "SUN");
    whoAmI(aPerson);
}
```

the result



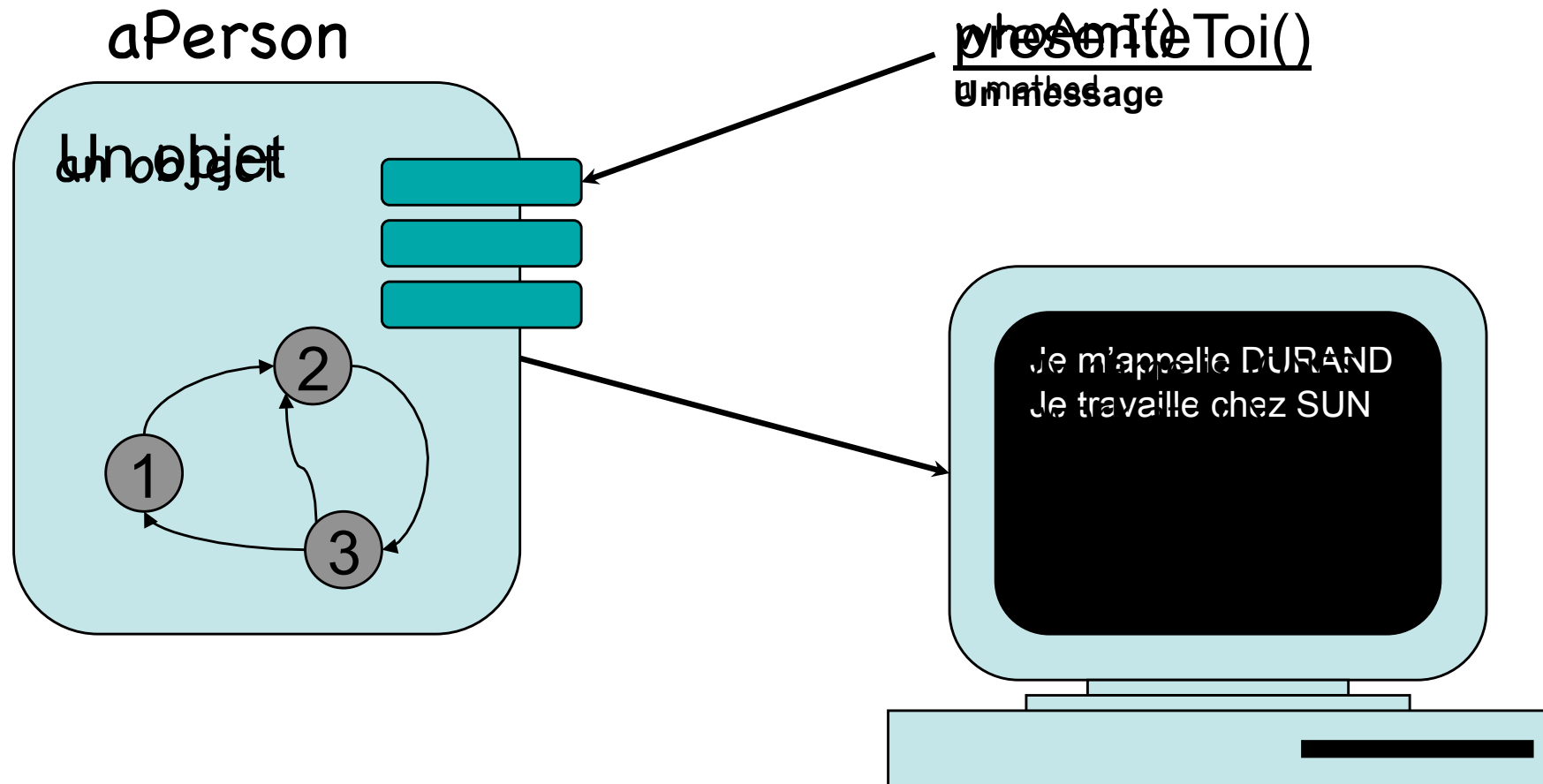


# Imperative programming

- ① Separating Data / Processing
  - ② `struct {} ≠ void whoAmI () {}`
- ① Manipulating objects through functions
  - ② `whoAmI(aPerson)`
- ① Requires knowledge of object structure
  - ② `aPerson.name`



# Objects





# a Java program

```
class Person {  
    public String name;  
    public String company;  
    public void whoAmI(){  
        System.out.println("My name is " + name);  
        System.out.println("I work at " + company);  
    }  
  
class Test {  
    public static void main(String args[]) {  
        Person aPerson;  
        aPerson = new Person();  
        aPerson.name = "JONES";  
        aPerson.company = "SUN";  
        aPerson.whoAmI();  
    }  
}
```



# Object-Oriented programming

## ● Grouping Attributes / Methods

```
● class ... {  
    Attribute  
    Method  
}
```

## ● Manipulating objects directly

```
● aPerson.whoAmI()
```

## ● Requires knowledge of public members

```
● aPerson.name & aPerson.whoAmI()
```



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# A class

name  
company

whoAmI()

- Instance attributes      Attribute's type
- `public String company;`      Attribute's name

```
class Person {  
    public String name;  
    public String company;  
    public void whoAmI(){  
        System.out.println("My name is " + name);  
        System.out.println("I work at " + company);  
    }  
}
```



# A class

name  
company

whoAmI()

## Instance attributes

- Each object instantiated by this class has a value for each attribute
- public attributes are fully modifiable



# A class

name  
company

whoAmI()

## Methods

method name

mandatory

public void whoAmI() { ... } — body

no return value

```
class Person {  
    public String name;  
    public String company;  
    public void whoAmI(){  
        System.out.println("My name is " + name);  
        System.out.println("I work at " + company);  
    }  
}
```



# A class

name  
company

whoAmI()

## Methods

- public methods are the messages each object is able to understand
- methods always have parenthesis () and braces {}
- methods may use parameters
  - Parameter's type
  - public void setName (String name)
  - Parameter's name
- methods may return values
  - returned type
  - public String getName()
- void replaces the returned type when not required



# Objects

- ① Object declaration
  - ② Person aPerson;
- ① Object instantiation
  - ② new Person();
- ① Object usage
  - ② aPerson.company ...

```
...  
    Person aPerson;  
    aPerson = new Person();  
    aPerson.name = "JONES";  
    aPerson.company = "SUN";  
    aPerson.whoAmI();  
}
```



# Some tips

- ☉ Object programming is dynamic programming but...
  - ☉ There is no pointers
  - ☉ Object identifiers are called "references"
    - ☉ `Person aPerson;`



# References

- ☉ Objects are known through their reference
  - ☉ null after declaration
    - ☉ Person aPerson;
  - ☉ Any usage of null reference results in execution error
    - ☉ "null pointer exception"

```
Person aPerson;
```

aPerson

Null



# References

## Instantiation is the actual object creation

- new creates the object
  - new Person()
- Assignment to the reference
  - aPerson = new ...

name Null

company Null

whoAmI()

## Notice...

- Inside the object...

```
aPerson = new Person();
```

aPerson Null





# Natural public usage

## Public attributes

• `aPerson.name = "JONES";`

## Public methods

• `aPerson.whoAmI();`

JONES

name Null

company Null

whoAmI()

```
aPerson.name = "JONES";  
aPerson.whoAmI();
```

aPerson



# Warning

## Be careful with assignment

anotherPerson = aPerson;

~~anotherPerson~~

JONES  
name Null  
company Null

whoAmI()

aStudent = aPerson **OK**

```
Person anotherPerson
anotherPerson = aPerson;
```

aPerson



# Partial conclusion

- ☉ Not so interesting in that way...
  - ☉ Objects can be wrong (after declaration)
  - ☉ Internal structure must be known
- ☉ Why ?
  - ☉ Objects do not manage their state !

a keyword: private